12072

JOHN BULL

Vol. XII. No. 295. SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1912. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page ii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

SEE PAGE 125

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The following claims have been received for our Issues of October 30th, December 2nd, and December 16th:—

W. FAIRBROTHER, 10, Perch Street, Shacklewell Lane, Stoke Newington. No. 580,092. October 30th.

W. S. BASCOMBE, Vine Cottage, Box, Wiltshire. No. 191,179. December 2nd.

H. J. SMITH, 19, Belmont Road, Beckenham, Kent. No. 217,591. December 16th.

The following are the fifty numbers for the Issue of December 30th:—

5050	179895	396595	578675	710393
14507	188126	466889	581615	724503
37954	205307	482886	589145	722837
51318	227832	444544	628612	756880
77876	254482	471002	640073	770759
93898	269891	493312	653295	821780
13135	275270	505749	673610	827625
150334	306388	539283	677151	840025
157034	314446	552328	686105	863373
173875	371187	568546	697706	864110

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED FEBRUARY 24TH (PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 22ND).

The John Bull League.

OBJECTS: To Stamp out Cant and Self-Righteousness; to abolish Cranks and Killjoys; to Create a Robust and Self-reliant Public Opinion; and to Promote a Common Sense Business Government for a Common Sense Business People.

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The General Secretary,
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Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

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Address.....

.....

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Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XII. No. 295. Week ending Saturday, January 27th, 1912. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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The John Bull League.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT BRANCH.
A PUBLIC MEETING
WILL BE HELD AT THE
PUBLIC LIBRARY, SALE,
TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY, JANUARY 25th).
The Chair will be taken at 7.45 p.m. by
COUNCILLOR H. ROSS CLYNE,
supported by a large number of influential gentlemen.
DOORS OPEN 7.15 P.M. ADMISSION FREE.

GLASGOW AND DISTRICT BRANCH.
A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT
WILL BE HELD AT
"THE LANSDOWNE," 183, HOPE ST., GLASGOW,
MONDAY, JANUARY 29th, at 7.30 p.m.
COUNCILLOR COHEN in the Chair.
TICKETS (1s. EACH)
can be obtained from the Convener, Mr. Jno. Pye, 28, Sawmillfield Street, Mr. H. McCone, Branch Secretary, 1,222, Springburn Road, and members of the Committee.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.
A POPULAR WHIST DRIVE
WILL BE HELD AT THE
ASSEMBLY ROOMS, HARDMAN STREET,
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31st.
DOORS OPEN 7.30 P.M. COMMENCE AT 8 O'CLOCK SHARP.
TICKETS (PRICE 1s. 6d., INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS)
may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. S. Haines, 48, Woodlands Road, or any member of the Committee.

ABERDEEN BRANCH.
A WHIST DRIVE
WILL BE HELD
IN THE EMPRESS CAFE, UNION STREET,
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12th,
Partners drawn 7.45 p.m. sharp.
WHIST. MUSIC.
Tickets (price 1s. 6d., Gents.; 1s. 3d. Ladies, including refreshments) may be obtained from Mr A. T. Fairweather, 56, Elmbank Terrace; Mr. Joseph Ross, 69, Albury Road; Mr. F. H. Lawrence, stationer, 41, Victoria Road; and members of the committee.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT BRANCH.
A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT
WILL BE HELD IN THE
WHITE HORSE HOTEL, CONGREVE STREET,
ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd, at 8 p.m.
ADMISSION FREE.
LADIES SPECIALLY INVITED.

A WHIST DRIVE
WILL BE HELD AT
THE PITMAN RESTAURANT, CORPORATION STREET,
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14th.
COMMENCE 7.30 P.M. :: ADMISSION 1/-

We regret to announce the death, after a short illness, of Mr. George Wedlake, who had occupied the position of Assistant Editor of this journal since its foundation.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

THE *MEDINA* AND THE MEDICO.

"Is it true," asks a Plymouth reader, "that whilst the *Medina* was anchored at Port Said, the King's Harbourmaster was dismissed his post through refusing to comply with the request of a corporal of the Army Medical Corps for a launch to take him as a messenger to the *Medina* with a phial of serum for a case of cholera?" We hope, and we believe, it is not.

"LABOUR LEADERS."

We observe that some of these are very bold in their platform utterances during the recess. They mean to make the Government "sit up." But when Parliament reassembles the Government Whip will have no difficulty in making them sit down. The men who will come most to the front will be Ben Tillett and Victor Grayson—not because they are very great constructive statesmen, but because they are *human*. Amongst the Labour M.P.'s, Lansbury is their only rival.

THE PARTY PRESS.

Neither the *Daily News*, nor the *Daily Chronicle*, nor the *Morning Leader* gave one line of report of the shocking case in which the General Secretary of the Gladstone League recently figured—a conspiracy of silence which degrades British journalism to the lowest level of moral venality, and by wilfully suppressing news of vital interest, amounts to obtaining halfpennies by "false and fraudulent misrepresentation."

PLAYING THE GAME SERIOUSLY.

It really begins to look as though the Ulster men mean business—ugly business. It is difficult to say that they are wrong, and equally difficult to say that they are right. If they honestly believe, as many of them undoubtedly do, that Home Rule means placing them under the yoke of the Roman Church, and the delivering of them into the power of a "rebel" party, it is only human nature that they should revolt. On the other hand, wouldn't it strengthen their hands to give the "rebels" the opportunity of stating their case and establishing, if they can, the *bonâ-fides* of their policy? Unfortunately, however, we have to deal with a Celtic race—and there's the rub. You cannot discuss Home Rule as you would discuss the fiscal question. Statistics and "arguments" count for nothing. Ireland is two countries in one. That is the difficulty.

MRS. BULL'S Unique New Feature—See Page 125.

BARNES, THE ORACLE.

Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P., late leader of the Labour Party in the House of Commons, has been giving advice to the Thames-side men who are threatened with unemployment. It seems that the men can have the building of two cruisers if the cost reasonably approximates to the Tyne and the Clyde prices, and that certain capitalists are prepared to undertake the contract if the Thames men will work a few hours more a week. This is the advice given to the men by Mr. Barnes: "I hope," he says . . . "they will spurn the mess of pottage in the shape of a year's work under conditions which would be degrading." In the presence of so brilliant an oracle it is not for us to offer a suggestion; but we venture to hint that it would be better to get the job first—and talk about these other things a bit later. See? Oh, for a Business Labour Leader!

THE CLAPHAM MURDER.

We understand that exhaustive enquiries in France and America are being conducted, and that both Mr. Claude Lumley and Mr. Abinger, who, as solicitor and counsel, defended Stinie Morrison, are convinced that there has been a gross miscarriage of justice. The prisoner seems to have settled down to good behaviour in prison, but should he be released a philanthropic lady of title has promised to give him a fresh start in life. Another item in the case is that ex.-P.C. Greaves has notified us that he intends to open up the question of his treatment by the Commissioner of Police. We may hear something interesting soon.

MODERN CHILD-EATERS AGAIN!

We are receiving many heartbreaking letters from parents who have been deprived of the custody of their children and refused all knowledge of their whereabouts. The following is an instance:—"Please can you tell me whether a Superintendent of an Industrial School can send my boy to a situation on a farm before his term is up, which expires in April next, unknown to us, his parents, and keeping him there without us knowing where he is or what part of the country he is in or whether he is sent abroad? I wrote the President of the Local Government Board a month ago, and had an acknowledgment of my letter the following day, but have heard nothing since." Of course, our correspondent should have addressed the Home Office. We always said the Children Act was an ill-advised, mischievous piece of legislation. It is directly accountable for the loss of lives of children who have been run over, or have caught pneumonia or some other serious illness while waiting outside public houses for their parents. The numerous cases now being brought to our notice of what practically amounts to kidnapping simply strengthen our opinion.

WHO INVENTED THE SCOUT?

Who was the originator of the Boy Scouts' movement? "Who's Who" says General Sir Robert Baden-Powell—and the defender of Mafeking always admits the impeachment. On the other hand, Mr. Fred Ginnett, of circus fame, writes, "I trained a company of boys at least twelve months before Baden-Powell ever thought of his Scout corps. After I had got my idea started Baden-Powell jumped in and stole the idea from me—and of course he got knighted." What says Baden-Powell? One of the Scout laws is "play the game"—and somebody or other is not doing so.

The Lay Lawyer.

We are busy on the arrangements for our new journal—which, like JOHN BULL, will fill one of the very few vacant places in the newspaper world.

THE DOGS OF WAR.

From a case heard in the Rochester County Court it is evident that the war dogs have been about; to wit, Colonel Hope-Willis and his canine companion. It is alleged that the Colonel is "retired," but the solicitors' clerk who was plaintiff in the case probably had his doubts. The Colonel's dog is on the active list, anyhow, for the animal ate a piece out of the plaintiff's trousers. The gallant officer wrote: "I regret that my dog has been so ill-mannered as to tear your well-worn trousers of cheap material." By the judgment the Colonel has to subscribe 10s. towards a new pair, and in future he will be well advised to keep his dog in the paths of peace. Does the Colonel see that it is adequately fed? The question is asked because, though the brute got only trousers, it was evidently after meat.

NO "PAUPERS" AT NORTHWICH.

Henceforth there will be no paupers in Northwich; at any rate, the Board of Guardians have decided to eliminate the word from their minutes and proceedings. Undoubtedly it carries both a sting and a stigma, and yet it is difficult to find a word which will describe one dependent upon public charity. If we were French we could say *un pauvre, un indigent*; but if a word is to be used expressive of the system as we have it in this country, it will be difficult to find it. There is no available synonym—unless, indeed, it be "an M.P."!

POLE-CAREW'S MARTIAL AIR.

There are people who regard Mr. Lloyd George as one of the seraphim and cherubim, while others think his number is that of the Beast of Revelations; but, in any case, General Sir Reginald Pole-Carew has exceeded even the licence of the martial spirit by variously describing our right hon. friend as "a liar, a knave, and a fool." This is a most lamentable political indecorum. Besides, no politician likes to be called a fool. Anything else doesn't matter.

CHEAP CONSOLS.

The loss to the depositors of the Post Office Savings Bank in connection with Consols is enormous. Thousands of them have saved up bit by bit with infinite self-sacrifice and invested, in the true spirit of thrift, believing that their capital was "as safe as the Bank of England," especially as Consols lead the securities forced upon them in the official pass-book and its attendant literature. They have bought in such small sums as they could save, at almost every price downwards from par and over, and to sell out now would sweep away a large portion of their anxiously acquired little capital. For Consols there are now no buyers, and there seems no bottom to the fall. It is time we took the "premier" security in hand. Who was it that said that Cobden gave us cheap bread, and Lloyd George gave us cheap Consols? "Oh, for——" You know the rest!

THE DAMNATION OF LAMPETER.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of Lampeter are evidently more angry than anxious at the recent assertion of one Councillor Evans that "dancing is the damnation of the town," for we note that they have fixed the fees "for the use of the Victoria Hall for dancing" on a scale which, if Lampeter should be damned by dancing, will go far towards paying the insurance premiums.

For Our Mammoth Football Competition—See Page iii. of Cover.

BLEEDING THE LAMB.

If the dispute between the colliers and the coal-owners had been a put-up job the public could not have been more wickedly bled in advance by the colliery owners and the coal merchants. The agony has been worked up in advance, the owners and merchants stuffing their pockets with gold at the expense of a populace fanned into panic. In these warm "winters" nobody is likely to perish of cold, and if people will economise their supplies during the next few days that three-shillings-a-ton which the coal trade has put on will quickly come off. The strike may, and probably will, come—but the day is not yet. It will be part of the general industrial upheaval which, as we have already warned the public, is being timed for the late spring.

MAINPRIZE OF OTLEY.

It looks as though Mr. Mainprize were no prize. As chairman of the Otley District Council this gentleman is a magistrate during his year of office, and sitting alone the other day he abused his position by sending an old grey-haired man to gaol for seven days for the heinous offence of sleeping out at Menston. Having only twopence in the world, the poor man had dragged his old bones out of the cold and wet into the lavatory behind the Wesleyan Sunday School. There he was discovered asleep by a policeman. Being ordered to move on, and having neither heart nor strength to face the storm, he voluntarily accompanied the officer to the station-house, where he was put up for the night. These are the facts on which Mr. Noprize Mainprize sentenced this old man to seven days' gaol—well, there was another fact. Three or four years ago he was convicted of drinking not wisely but too well, and the police reminded our magisterial friend of it. Our worst New Year's wish to him is that he may never be a greater sinner.

HELD.

Explaining to the Bethnal Green coroner why he was late for duty, a juryman said he could not get away from his wife. Perhaps she does not understand the jury system and did not wish him to go a-courting.

ANOTHER POINTER.

We observe that the opening feature of the Langham Lectures, under the auspices of the Institute of Lecturers, is to be a debate between Mr. G. K. Chesterton and Sir Henry Seton-Karr on the Party System. The question to be submitted is, "Are the evils of the present English Party System intolerable and remediable?" Mr. Chesterton is to maintain the affirmative; we shall have our money on him.

HERNE BAY MEN'S INSTITUTE.

The members of the Herne Bay Men's Institute have had to seek fresh premises because the vicar, the Rev. C. E. Stocks, M.A., has made it a matter of prayer whether whist and other card games should be played there, and has received a negative reply. The Institute was inaugurated in the old church schoolroom about two years ago under another vicar, the Rev. Laporte Payne, who does not appear to have seen any harm in the card-playing. Apparently the Rev. C. E. Stocks did not make billiards a matter of prayer, for his ultimatum is merely in respect of cards, though we altogether fail to appreciate the fine theological distinction, especially as the vicar says: "I do not presume to pronounce on card-playing away from here; that is purely a matter for each one's taste and conscience." May we ask what are his conscientious convictions about jumble sales, conversaziones, dancing, dip-tubs and tea-fights?

ANOTHER SORT OF PARSON.

One reason for our enquiry is that the Rev. C. L Johnstone, priest-in-charge of St. Chad's, Devonport, makes no secret of his attitude on these burning questions. In the *St. James's Parish Magazine*, for instance, he records, as a "very good result considering" that, though he "got up his recent jumble sale on the spur of the moment," he realised £2 5s.; he is also in high glee because St. Chad's Billiard V. won their first game; while he is in the seventh heaven over the New Year's Day entertainment, for "about 80 were present and dancing was kept up until the small hours of the morning." The only thing that plagues the soul of the cheerful pilot is "the hypocritical action of this wonderful working man's Government," who "have deprived us of the services of our organist for weeks past." We suppose he really means to say that Mr. Lloyd George has prevented the organist from raising the wind. Or perhaps he has kidnapped him—the brigand!

DYING WAGE FOR LIVING MAN.

At the time of going to press, and within a period of ten days, £55,000 has been subscribed for the new Y.M.C.A. building. While this huge sum was being collected, beyond any reasonable doubt hundreds of people were dying of starvation. In one case the Westminster coroner was holding an inquest on an eight-months-old child named Trevor, son of a Pimlico porter. The porter, with his wife and four children, lived in one room, and the Oxford Street hosiery firm who employed him paid him 16s. a week for twelve hours labour a day—from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. His food while at work cost him 2s. a week. Of the 14s. left, rent exhausted 4s., 10s. remaining for food, fire, light and clothes for the six of them. Before the poor devil got this job he had been out of work for two years. If he had not taken this sweating wage no doubt any one of hundreds of other people would have been glad to do so. How many more Trevors were there watching the "Christian" clock recording the collections?

CONJUGAL FELICITY IN HIGH LIFE.

The *Evening Times* (Glasgow) prints the following paragraph: "Lord and Lady Minto travelled by the same train from Hawick." Whatever is coming over our old aristocracy? It is getting quite plebeian.

ENTERPRISE.

Last week Sir James Crichton-Browne, the specialist in mental and nervous diseases, got married, at 72 years of age, to Miss Audrey Bulwer. As someone has previously remarked, this is an enterprising age; and Sir James was always a daring practitioner.

A PUDSEY JOB.

Councillor Salter, J.P., of Pudsey, has said either too much or too little. He alleges that in respect of a recent contract let by the local council a certain contractor was permitted to amend his tender, and then got the job. In what circumstances was he allowed to amend? Was a chance to amend given to his competitors? Was he allowed to amend *sub rosa*, on secret information withheld from other competitors, or openly? Who was the contractor in question, and what is it suggested was the nature of his relationship with the Council? *R.S.V.P.*

UN-NATURAL HISTORY.

A contemporary tells us that "a single female housefly allowed to live through the winter will by the following September have 5,598,720 millions of descendants." What a married one would have is, we presume, beyond calculation!

Something Special for Wife, Sister, and Daughter—See Page 125.

"SWEAR NOT AT ALL."

In a recent number of the *Railway Mission Messenger*, a shunter tells a nice tract story of how he was cured of saying bad words. He was between two waggons, and the coupling was very stiff. As the driver did not help him at all, he dropped the coupling and jumped out below the buffers to give the driver a hot word. Then something happened which he has never been able to explain. "I was struck on the mouth," he says, "as if by a hand, although no one was near me, and I did not utter a word. My lips had two black marks as if two fingers had struck them, and they were painful for several days. Never since has an oath been in my heart, far less on my lips." Seeing that he was among such a lot of moving ironmongery at the time and was bobbing under the buffers, he got off very well.

THE MISSING WORD.

Lovely woman is asserting herself with the suffrage. One of the most recent examples of revolt from thralldom to the tyrant Man and his statutes is Miss Una Dugdale, who, on the occasion of her recent wedding, objected to "obey" young Mr. Victor Duval—and ultimately covenanted to do so only under protest. We have been privileged to see a photo of the happy couple, and we are quite sure that the lady meant what she said—or, rather, did not mean what she was forced to say.

THE ONE-DAY CRŒSUS.

Our compliments to John J. Macdevitt, the newest recruit to the ranks of millionaires and "plungers." It is true he wasn't a millionaire for long enough to turn John D. Rockefeller more dyspeptic still with envy. But all the same, £500 is a very respectable scale of expenditure for one day. And John got rid of it in quite orthodox Yankee style—a ride in his private railway train, with his private medico, his private secretary, and his private valet in attendance; a private suite at a first-rate New York hotel; a private box at the play (which he enjoyed), and a private supper (which apparently he didn't). And now he has retired into private life as a tramp, which presumably is his natural vocation, and during the remainder of his career he will be in a position to tell his pals of the road what it feels like. He made just one mistake in his programme, however. He omitted to propose to a British peeress. But perhaps he was right after all. She might have accepted him.

MEYER AND THE DEITY.

Referring to whist drives, the Rev. F. B. Meyer has been declaring at Tiverton that "God Almighty is not so hard up that he needs to go to the devil for his subscriptions." Maybe—but, so far as we are concerned, Mr. Meyer may do so.

POSTMEN AND CHRISTMAS.

"I, with many other workmen in this district," says a Mortlake man, "think it is disgusting that postmen should be allowed to solicit from door to door of workmen's houses for a Christmas box. It unfortunately is not generally known, though it is a fact, that the postman's Christmas box when shared out is anywhere from £7 to £20, according to the district he is attached to, and the auxiliaries from £3 to £7. This year when the postman called he was told we could not afford it, but he called again twice more in ten days. On the last occasion I had almost to insult him to get rid of him, and I know this man to be the owner of four houses." But so many landlords are hard-up nowadays.

OUR FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

Have you entered? See page iii. of cover.

"STILL AT IT."

Apropos of the remarks under this heading in our issue of January 13th, in reference to the appointment of Mr. G. E. P. Murray, a young man of thirty-one, to be a Commissioner of Customs and Excise at £1,200 a year, a well-informed correspondent tells us that Mr. Murray entered the Education Office in 1903 as a "temporary examiner." It is difficult to define the duties of such an official, or to say what qualifications are required, but, at any rate in Mr. Murray's case, they did not necessitate the passing of the usual Civil Service competitive examination, compulsory upon the less fortunate individual who does not happen to possess a father who is Permanent Secretary to the Treasury. Now, after eight years' "temporary" service, this young man is given £1,200 a year, and placed virtually at the head of a great public department responsible for the collection of eighty millions of revenue yearly. But for his wise choice of a progenitor he would have had as much chance of obtaining his present position as of flying to the moon. The eyes of the Education Department officials must have twinkled when they saw Mr. Murray's name as that of a "temporary" addition to the staff!

A JOURNALISTIC THIEF.

As we have said on previous occasions, we do not mind contemporaries annexing our matter on asking our leave. But we do object to their stealing it in cold blood. For instance, the *Warrington Examiner* bodily lifts a paragraph on the new Protection of Animals Act from our columns and does not make the slightest acknowledgment of its source. If the *Examiner* stole all its news and comments from its contemporaries in this way it would be in clover; all the time it wasn't stealing it would be collecting dividends. Does our contemporary go to church on Sundays?

"RATTLE HIS BONES OVER THE STONES."

Thomas Noel's "Pauper's Ride" comes again to mind as we read of the way they take their dead *pauvres* from the workhouse to the cemetery at Holyhead. The coffin is put into a market cart or wagonette, and off it is driven with as little ceremony as if it were dead horse bound *via* Belgium for the Land of Sausage. But since a disreputable public exhibition of a week or two ago the Holyhead Board of Guardians have "decided to have a hearse in future." Bless their dear Christian hearts! Are they sure they can afford it—for a pauper?

WAKING UP?

The *Daily News*, in its issue of January 18th, shows a greater knowledge of officialdom than we had suspected her to possess. Speaking of the reported intention to abolish our military bands, she says, "For our part, we refuse to believe the rumour until it is officially *denied*." Bless her dear, simple old heart!

LORD MACAULAY ON PARTY.

"The effect of violent animosities between Parties has always been an indifference to the general welfare and honour of the State. A politician whose factions run high is interested not for the whole people, but for his own section of it. The rest are, in his view, strangers, enemies, or rather pirates. The strongest aversion which he can feel to any foreign Power is the ardour of friendship when compared with the loathing which he entertains towards those domestic foes with whom he is cooped up in a narrow space, with whom he lives in a constant interchange of petty injuries and insults, and from whom, in the day of their success, he has to expect severities far beyond any that a conqueror from a distant country would inflict."

Our £1,000 Football Prize nearly Won—150 Guineas Consolation Prizes awarded.—See Page 130.

"LABBY."

The death of Mr. Labouchere removes from the journalistic world the founder and ruling spirit of what, in all good feeling, we have referred to as the Sixpenny JOHN BULL—just as we have been proud to describe ourselves as the Penny *Truth*. In a quiet little way we have also, we think, filled in Parliament a *rôle* not very dissimilar from that of the late Member for Northampton, although his colleague in the representation of that town, Charles Bradlaugh, has always been our ideal in public life. If, however, there was a vast difference between the prices of the two journals, their experiences have been similar in regard to actions for libel. Both of them have enjoyed the moral victory of winning important cases and never getting the costs. Still, that is the risk both journals have to take.

A BREAKFAST TABLE PROBLEM.

Last week's Problem was:—A man invests half his fortune in land, a fifth of it in the Funds, a sixth in Exchequer Bills, and loses the remainder (including a "fiver" he lent to a friend), which is £2,000, in speculation. What was his fortune at first?

Here is the solution:—

Add together (as fractions, of course) his investments. Clearly the "fiver" has nothing to do with the problem—it has been inserted only as a trap.

Thus $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{15+6+5}{30} = \frac{26}{30}$

The difference between 26 and 30 is 4; $\frac{4}{30}$ represents £2,000.

So, if $\frac{4}{30}$ represents £2,000, what sum does $\frac{30}{30}$ represent?

$$4 : 30 :: £2,000 : x$$
$$= 30 \times 2,000 \div 4$$

Answer: £15,000.

We now propound another Problem:—

3. Pears are bought at the rate of 5 for 1d., and an equal number at the rate of 7 for 1d. If they are sold at 6 for 1d. what is the loss per cent.?

Solution 3 next week.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT."

Scotland Yard "wanted" a man who was suspected of being in a certain provincial district, and, in accordance with custom, forwarded several photographs—six in all—of the fugitive, in different positions. After a few days a wire was received, "Have arrested five of them—expect the other to be brought in hourly."

MR. LLOYD GEORGE TO BE PRIME MINISTER.

IMPENDING CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION AND POLICY OF CABINET.

Mr. Lloyd George will shortly become Prime Minister—Mr. Asquith will go to the Lords, and probably at the same time retire from office. Mr. McKenna will go "out," and in this way the road will be cleared for a definite Cabinet policy in regard to the new Franchise Bill—which will then provide for some form of female suffrage. Mr. Churchill will adopt a "big" programme, and a Naval Loan will probably be announced. Lord Haldane will most likely also "go," and an effort will be made to introduce a Business element into the ministry. Amongst minor changes, a small post will be found for Ramsay Macdonald. By the impending shuffles, some of the difficulties—which are at present great—in connection with the drafting of the Home Rule Bill will also be overcome. There will probably be a General Election next spring.

We give the above information upon the authority of one in intimate touch with the Cabinet.

Other papers please copy—*and deny.*

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

[*"Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

*For stating in the "Sunday Chronicle" that: "Their Majesties will not leave the United Kingdom this year—*UNLESS *it is to go to Ireland,"*

"OLIVER GWYNNE"
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "In the eighteenth century a man named Horne was executed for the murder of his child 35 years AFTER,"

THE DAILY CHRONICLE,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For advertising fire salvage sale of the "*UNDAMAGED *portion" of another firm's stock, including "Men's trousers* (ONLY SEAT BURNT OUT), 6½*d.,"*

MESSRS. WHARTON
(14 and 14A, Dalston Lane, London, N.E.)
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

*For advertising, in the "Sheffield Daily Independent," under the heading "*MUSICAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT,*" "*BANDSAWS.—*Wanted capable man to braze and swage broad and narrow saws,"*

"ELSWORTH" (36, Malinda Street, Sheffield)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of a recent race meeting that: "'Tich' Mason made his appearance in the saddle AFTER A FORTNIGHT'S REST ON THE ROYSTON HORSE,"

THE DAILY SKETCH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in a report: "*EVERYBODY *appeared to have lost their heads on this occasion, but* THOSE WHO DID NOT *did exactly the right and proper thing,"*

THE DOVER TIMES & EAST KENT GUARDIAN
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of a recent police-court charge that: "The DOG'S *footsteps were also seen. These* CORRESPONDED EXACTLY *with the* PRISONER'S BOOTS,"

THE YORKSHIRE EVENING POST
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a letter to the "Morning Post" that: "Nine persons out of ten, and a much LARGER *proportion than that,* HAVE NO TASTE AT ALL, *and* IF THEY HAVE *it is execrable,"*

MR. ARTHUR C. BENSON
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a serial story published in "The People" that a character, when at a place near Ealing, received a telegram coming from Bath, with "the POSTMARK *of Bath upon it,"*

MR. EDEN PHILLPOTTS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following headlines: "States to Build Two DEADNOUGHTS—*Navy Officials* SURPRISED *that* 27,000 BATTLESHIPS *can be built* WITHIN THE $6,000,000 LIMIT *of Congress,"*

THE DAILY STANDARD (St. Catharine's, Ont.)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Entrants for this competition are reminded that "Biscuits" are not awarded for mere misprints, unless of a humorous or extraordinary nature. Should the same "Biscuit" be forwarded by more than one competitor, preference will be given to the reader whose letter is first opened. No coupons are required. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue.

MRS. BULL'S Unique New Feature—See Page 125.

THE "SIN"-EMATOGRAPH SCANDAL.

WEST-END TOUTS AND THEIR METHODS.

[We continue our exposure of West End secret cinematograph shows, and warn the public against the insidious methods of male and female touts. Our Special Commissioner also describes two of the less disgusting exhibitions.]

With reference to our recent revelations, the fact must not be overlooked that without the tout the secret "cinematograph" shows that permeate the West End of London—on which we are focussing attention to the dismay of interested people—could not be carried on, for the reason that the proprietors cannot advertise what they have to offer the filthy-minded. Hence the personal canvass for patrons.

A sorry jest which goes the round of the vicious fraternity of the West End is at the expense of the lower grade of women who help to make up the *demi-monde*—"You need not pay now; the cinematograph keeps them." Sometimes it takes a more personal form among the women themselves when they foregather, as, for instance, "Oh, she can afford things now that she has got regular picture work"; or "Her boy won't be so jealous of the cinematograph."

Such remarks—which may be overheard without difficulty—give the keynote of what is happening in the underworld. They may not be true of the persons to whom they are intended to apply, but they indicate a knowledge of what is going on among their class, even though the majority of the films are manufactured, or "faked," in Paris.

THE TOUTS.

The touts and their methods are the most amazing feature of this newly-organised trade. Generally speaking, the touting is done by men, youths and women, according to the particular form of vice concerned. A great proportion of the canvassing for indecent picture shows is undertaken by women, who, of course, can conveniently tout for patrons when a man would be at a disadvantage in having to go out of his way to introduce the matter—especially to a person he is not well acquainted with. Of course, the tout must not "open out" in haste; neither must he seem too interested. For these reasons women have peculiar facilities among their male acquaintances.

Nevertheless, the male tout is very much in evidence. But he must appear to the ordinary healthy-minded man of the world who happens to come into brief and accidental contact with him as either slick, insidious or sinister, according to the particular type he gets a passing glimpse of. The pen of a Balzac could hardly do justice to a subject like this, so incomprehensible to the average man. The curious thing is that touting for vice is at once as obvious as the nose on your face, and as puzzling in its devious ways as the maze at Hampton Court.

A man may say, for instance, quite truthfully: "I know nothing of all this to which you are drawing attention. I have known the West End of London intimately for years. I have used at different times most or all the houses of call. I am not, furthermore, prudish or thin-skinned enough to deny that I have dined and wined foolishly and hilariously on many occasions with loose companions. Yet I have never seen, nor, indeed, been invited to participate in, any special form of vicious entertainment."

Exactly! That, indeed, is the strangeness of it. Such is the profound knowledge of human nature possessed by the tout that the mistake of addressing the wrong man is seldom made, and if it be it is soon and easily rectified.

TOUTING TELEGRAPHY.

It is that extraordinary and amazing ability to read the subtle signs of character—of which the secret is, perhaps, the indefinable sympathy (however different their social status) that exists between two minds with a common sin—that enables the tout to differentiate at once between, say, the ordinary normal man and the man who is affected or controlled by some particular form of degeneracy or master passion. That explains, in fact, why one man may be familiar with the West End of London for years and never have reason even to suspect what is going on at his elbow, and another may discover it on his first visit—really, it is a man's own vice that discovers him to the tout!

Young and old men alike may be drawn into the mesh of the tout. The young man, little more than a boy, who likes to pose as a *blasé* man about town, is flattered in some hotel bar, and he goes along to see "some fun"—exactly what he may not be told. He is lucky if later he shakes off the undesirable acquaintances he has made. Posing differently according to his business, the tout with one swift, penetrating look selects his victim, and in an insidious way, or apparently by accident, conveys to him that he can show him something very unusual. The vicinity of the West End restaurants and bars is the great touting ground after licensed hours. And the ladies are the most successful agents. They have a list of "regulars" whom they are sure of as patrons for anything exotic.

OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S ENQUIRIES.

We have received the following report from our Special Commissioner:—

> Owing to the publicity given by JOHN BULL to the subject, it is extremely difficult for any "outsider" to gain admission to these shows—several of which have, at any rate temporarily, closed their doors. By dint of much effort, however, I have been present at two. One of them it is utterly impossible for me to describe, except to say that anything more revoltingly obscene it is impossible to conceive. Imagine the most disgusting of those French photographs which are at times smuggled into this country, but all in actual, live motion, with twenty painted ladies and depraved *roués*, leering and laughing at the exhibition, and the room filled with smoke and the fumes of strong drink. And imagine *my* feelings, disguised—simulating pleasure, and expecting every moment that my identity would be discovered! Of the other show I can speak with a little less reserve. It represented the experiences of an artist, who had advertised for a "model for the nude," and who was depicted "interviewing" the candidates—ultimately finding himself with half-a-dozen hidden behind screens—when a party of "artist" friends—I emphasise the word!—came unexpectedly upon the scene and helped him out of his difficulty!

We are still following the matter up.

For Our Mammoth Football Competition—See Page iii. of Cover.

A BOURNEMOUTH "LUNACY" SCANDAL.

ANOTHER ILLUSTRATION OF THE LOOSE WORKING OF THE LUNACY LAWS.

[How a perfectly sane old lady had her home broken up and was forcibly removed, despite the protest of her medical attendant.]

Some forty years ago Mrs. F. M. Gibbings, the widow of a Col. Gibbings, adopted a child of four named Emily Lane. Mrs. Gibbings was a lady of small independent means, having an income of about £150 a year received from trustees. Time went on, the little girl grew to be a young woman, and she was still with her adopted mother. Then she married a Mr. Wright, despite opposition by Mrs. Gibbings, and after a short time she resumed her position in Mrs. Gibbings's house, bringing two little children with her. Mrs. Gibbings's insistence that Mrs. Wright should live with her led to differences with the husband, and ultimately separation; and for many years past Mrs. Wright has been receiving from her husband a maintenance allowance of 15s. a week. Things went on in this way until a few months ago. Mrs. Gibbings was now a very old woman, 86 years of age, and Mrs. Wright practically devoted her life, and had done for many years, to looking after her. On her part, Mrs. Gibbings made a will in which she bequeathed £500, the only money at her absolute disposal, to Mrs. Wright, together with the furniture of the house and her jewellery. This bequest was a very important matter for Mrs. Wright, seeing that she had wrecked her own home to please Mrs. Gibbings, and had nothing to look forward to to keep her and her two children but the allowance of 15s. a week.

About eighteen months ago a relative of Mrs. Gibbings came upon the scene, and proposed that Mrs. Gibbings should be sent to a "home." She applied to the Lord Chancellor for the purpose of getting an order to remove Mrs. Gibbings. Affidavits were sworn, and the matter came before Master Fisher, who ultimately, and after much hesitation, ordered that Mrs. Gibbings should be removed to a home, and in the end she was taken there and an order made that the cost of her maintenance at the home, some £4 a week, should be paid by means of the £150 income and the £500 of which she had free disposal. The result of this arrangement was that Mrs. Gibbings's home was broken up against her will and that Mrs. Wright, who had devoted her life to looking after this old lady, was deprived of the furniture which had been promised to her, and of the £500 willed to her.

The whole conduct of the persons concerned is quite inexplicable. Mrs. Gibbings had no desire to leave her home or to alter her arrangements, which were the best that could be made. It was said in the affidavits that she was a lunatic, or something very near it. There is no justification whatever for that statement. She is 86 years of age, and is suffering from senile decay, but if every old lady who is suffering from senile decay is to be forcibly removed from her home and put into a private asylum a good many new asylums will have to be built. We have before us the protest entered by her medical attendant when a solicitor and some policemen came to take Mrs. Gibbings away. Dr. Dickie is a well-known man in Bournemouth, and this is the protest he made: "As the physician in regular attendance on Mrs. Gibbings, 16, Westbourne Arcade, I wish to certify that I enter my strong protest against the removal of my patient from her present residence for the reasons that (1) I conscientiously believe such removal to be dangerous to her life; (2) I conscientiously believe such removal to be unnecessary both for mental and physical conditions."

The action of Master Fisher (who, by the way, is himself 82 years of age) has taken the old lady from her own home, where she was well treated and content, to a strange institution; whilst as regards Mrs. Wright, it has been still more disastrous. For 20 years she has been devoting herself to Mrs. Gibbings—to find now that the arrangement under which she did so is not worth the paper on which it was written. The whole proceedings show once more how easy it is to induce the authorities to put persons away.

"PANTOMIME IN THE PROVINCES."

OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER PEEPS BEHIND THE SCENES.

Following up our recent exposure of the evil conditions which exist in many provincial theatres—and in a few in London—as regards dressing-rooms for artistes, we instructed our representative, while in the North of England recently, to pay a visit to some of these places of amusement and get first-hand evidence. Here is what he says upon the matter:—

"I have no hesitation is stating that no class of people in Great Britain is less cared for in the matter of general health arrangements than the theatrical artiste in the provinces. Let me describe one theatre in Lancashire. I obtained admission behind the stage in the usual fashion—a decent tip, judiciously bestowed, served as an 'Open Sesame.' A pantomime with some fifty performers was in full swing. To reach the dressing-rooms one enters the street door and then descends an iron staircase—a drop of something like 50 ft. The first room one gets a glance of is labelled 'Band Room.' It is a box-like compartment, about 12 ft. by 9 ft., and it has to accommodate *fifteen men*. There is no ventilation whatever; the walls are damp and smeared with all sorts of paper; a rickety table stands in the centre; the flooring is concrete, over which is laid some matting, which the damp has made so completely rotten that it stinks. As I stooped down to lift up this matting a rat, the size of a decent guinea-pig, jumped between my legs.

"Groping my way along a narrow passage, led by a 'Fairy Queen,' I was shown into one of the chorus dressing-rooms. *Twenty-five* girls were crammed into a small box-like compartment, if anything smaller than the Band Room. Here, again, there was no ventilation whatever. Hung round the walls were the girls' changes of stage dresses and also their walking attire. The weather at the time being wet, the place was literally streaming. Thrown in heaps on the sodden matting were the girls' boots, and in a corner stood a wash-stand, in which the whole twenty-five girls were supposed to perform their ablutions. The pervading odour was, to quote, "A very ancient and fish-like smell." Never, except in an emigrant ship, have I experienced anything like it. It stuck in my nostrils for days.

"I paid a visit to other dressing-rooms, all of which were equally as bad, if not worse. One water-closet is provided for the males and one for the females, and the state of both is indescribable.

"After the show was over many of these poor girls complained bitterly to me about the conditions under which they are forced to work. Throat trouble, I was informed, is a general complaint amongst them—and no wonder. In giving you a description of this theatre, I may add that four others I visited in the provinces are equally as bad. Perhaps the sanitary inspectors will give some of these places a look up."

"BOOTS" AT STIRLING.

AN UNENVIABLE RECORD OF LENGTHY LABOUR.

A "boots" at a Stirling hotel tells us that his regular hours on duty per week, including Sunday, are about 129 out of 168—his only time "off" being three hours on Sunday afternoon. He says that he commences work in the morning at 5.45 a.m., or 4.0 o'clock if any visitor is going by the 4.56 train, and does not stop until 11.0 p.m. or perhaps 12.0, and even then he is sometimes disturbed two or three times during the night by a belated motor car party. For this he receives 10s. per week. He says nothing of any tips he may pick up, and perhaps these counterbalance the low wages. All the same, he seems to be grossly overworked—and, according to his account, very much underfed—and surely he must hold the record for long hours of labour.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE ii. OF COVER.

Something Special for Wife, Sister, and Daughter—See Page 125.

STATE INSURANCE.

HOW IT WILL AFFECT THE UNEMPLOYED.

By T. Good.

[*Mr. Good, who has been one of the principal critics of the State Insurance Act, deals with the Unemployment Part, and in his characteristic incisive manner riddles its provisions.*]

As I have pointed out in previous articles, the movement which has culminated in this insurance scheme was purely and simply a movement for unemployment legislation. When the idea of compulsory insurance was taken up the question of invalidity was raised, and it was suggested that both the out-of-work and the permanent invalid should be treated. Temporary sickness was never mentioned. Those out of work through industrial fluctuations or depression, those too old to secure employment and the permanently disabled—those were the cases considered to be in need of State assistance. The temporarily sick were so well covered by a network of friendly societies, sick clubs and hospitals that no recognised reformer thought of including temporary sickness in the promised State scheme. Unemployment and invalidity were the problems. How are they dealt with?

THE INCAPACITATED AND UNPROTECTED IGNORED.

Millions of men already insured against sickness are brought into this new scheme for no justifiable reason; but every permanent invalid is left outside. Every poor old veteran of industry is left outside. There is nothing in this scheme for the man of 55, 60, or 65 whom our industrial system no longer requires. The aged and the infirm, like the widows and orphans, are denied the "rare and refreshing fruit," while the promised "adequate insurance" against unemployment is neither "adequate" in its terms nor "insurance" in its principles.

To begin with, Part II. of the Act covers only a couple of groups of industries—building and other constructional works, and shipbuilding, engineering, iron founding, etc. Now let us see how the most deserving men in these trades will fare under the scheme. On the face of it, a weekly contribution of 2½d., supplemented by 2½d. from the employer and a subsidy from the State equal to one-third of the joint contribution, is to entitle a man to 7s. a week when unemployed. But in this part of the Act, like the sickness part, there is provision after provision designed to deprive the workmen of the benefits they are being led to expect. As a matter of fact, the 7s. a week will very seldom be forthcoming when needed. Two provisions in the Act—the provision that unemployment benefit must not be paid to any man for more than 15 weeks in any year, or in a greater proportion than one week's benefit for every five weeks' contributions over any period of years, which works out at less than nine weeks per year (actually eight weeks of benefit and 44 weeks of contributing in each 52 weeks)—are coming to be fairly understood; but there are other provisions which none of the workers seems yet to realise. Let me explain.

HARSH RESTRICTIONS.

To start with, there is to be no benefit for the first week of unemployment, and as the out-of-work must give satisfactory evidence of his unemployment to the officials, we may take it for granted that he will have to sign at the Labour Exchange every working day for a fortnight before he can draw one week's benefit of 7s., and only that after he has served a 26 weeks' probationary period. But that is a mere detail. Taking these two groups of industries, the average unemployment period per annum will be from two to three times as long as the average trade unionist period, for the labourers are out of work in a far greater proportion than the skilled men. Bulking skilled and unskilled together, we shall be within the mark if we put the average *bona-fide* unemployment period at eight weeks a year. This means that the average man will pay 44 weeks' contributions, and, as there is no benefit for the first week of unemployment, the most he can hope for, after allowing for the first 26 weeks' probation, is seven weeks' benefit in the calendar year. But what will he *get?*

"EXPENSES" A PRIOR LIEN ON FUND.

Forty-four weeks' contributions from the man and his employer will amount to 18s. 4d. To that the State will add a sum equal to one-third the joint contribution—6s. 1½d.—total, 24s. 5½d.

The Board may deduct "one-tenth of the receipts" for the purpose of "salaries, remuneration, and expenses." This will reduce the *per capita* amount to 22s. That is, assuming full contributions to the fund for the average period of 44 weeks per year. But, under Clause 94, the employer is entitled to a rebate equal to "one-third of the contribution" in respect of workmen "continuously in his service" for a year. Now, if we assume that only one man in three is kept in employment for a full year, this will entitle the employer to a rebate equal to one-ninth his aggregate contributions to the fund. As these contributions will equal 9s. 2d. per annum per man employed, the rebate will exceed 1s. *per capita*. This reduces the above 22s. per insured workman to less than 21s.—less than three weeks' benefit, or, allowing for the regularly employed men, four weeks' benefit per year per man liable to unemployment. Is this—little more than will pay the rent during *half* the average out-of-work period—"adequate insurance against unemployment"?

A PERNICIOUS INDUCEMENT.

Under Clause 96 the employer is entitled to another rebate if, in a period of depression, the "workmen employed by him have been systematically working short time." Now, the intention here may be very good. But what will be the effect? An employer who, in time of temporary depression, is disposed to keep his men on full time by finding them work whitewashing the shops, painting doors, "lagging" and tarring steam pipes, etc., etc., will be subsidised by the new Act if he reduces the work to a minimum, and puts the men on short time and wages. I know a large employer who puts his men on short time every winter when a Liberal Government is in office, and keeps them on full time when a Conservative Government is in, absolutely regardless of the volume of business on hand. I quote this merely to indicate what some employers can do. If the rebates in this respect average only another shilling per head, the fund will be reduced to less than 20s. per insured person per annum.

THE DWINDLING FUND.

Under Clause 100 the insurance officer is empowered to send an unemployed man "to a suitable place for the purpose of testing the skill or knowledge of the workman," and "the expenses incidental to such attendance" may be paid "out of the unemployment fund." After such "test" the man may be sent to school for "technical instruction," and again "the expenses incidental to the provision of such instruction" will come out of the "unemployment fund." At the moment I pass over the point that the workman is to be judged as to his "skill and knowledge," and then sentenced to a term of compulsory "tests" and schooling and other indignities by a jack-in-office. Assuming that only one man in 50 is subjected to this treatment for a period of three months, and that, with certain other costly relief tests and "farm colonies" in mind, we assume that the average weekly expenses are only 5s., this means £3 5s. in respect of each such case, or a *per capita* reduction of the unemployment fund by another 1s. 3d. This brings the available amount of real unemployment benefit down to something between 18s. and 19s. per insured person per annum. In other words, making the most moderate estimates of the various rebates, costs, and expenses, this unemployment fund will afford little more than 2½ weeks' benefit, at 7s. a week, in a year.

UNFAIR AND UNJUST.

Moreover, not only is this scheme illusory in its benefits; it is unfair in its penalties, it is unjust in its rewards, or rebates, and it is tyrannical in its administration. For example: if the employer breaks any part of this new law he may be fined; If the workman commits a similar offence he may go to prison, with hard labour. Again, if the employer is good enough to keep a man employed regularly for 52 weeks he (the employer) is rewarded with a rebate of 33⅓ per cent. of his contribution; but the workman must have a good record of 500 weeks, and must reach the age of 60 years, before he gets any reward or rebate. As for the administration of the fund, it is bureaucratic to the last degree. The so-called "advisory committees" will be mere dummies. The settlement of every question is left to the officers. Neither employers nor workmen will have any voice or vote in the matter. And, yet again, the officials are empowered both to cut down the benefits and increase the contributions. If British workmen will tolerate this scheme they will tolerate anything.

Our £1,000 Football Prize nearly Won—150 Guineas Consolation Prizes awarded.—See Page 130.

A STUDY IN SUPPLICATION.

[Below we print a striking little story, which has the merit of being strictly true.]

By R. E.

He was about forty, and had been married five years. Previous to marriage, and for four years after, he had been in regular employment as clerk to a firm in the city. For the past twelve months, however, he had formed a unit in the vast army of the unemployed. The cause of unemployment was no fault of his own.

For twelve long, weary months he had strenuously endeavoured to get another berth. He would have accepted any kind of a job capable of supplying the necessaries of life for himself, wife, and little baby-girl.

"Where are you going this morning?" asked his wife.

He didn't know—somewhere. "Suppose you try the Labour Bureau again?" suggested the heart-broken woman.

He smiled—and giving a contemptuous spit into the sink where he was washing, exclaimed, "Not me. What's the good of going there," he continued; "I've been attending there off and on for the past ten months and have never been sent after a single job."

"Try again," she pleaded. He promised.

"Do, and God be with you," urged his wife, "for we are now at the end of all things. Our furniture is sold. Clothes and bedding are all in pawn—even my wedding ring is gone. I dread the child waking up, for all I can offer her for breakfast is dry bread. The weather is cold also, and we have no fire."

He had now finished his toilet. Giving his wife a kiss he passed out into the street—once more to try his luck.

* * * * * * *

Five hours later he was back home again, with a smile on his face and two parcels under his arms. Placing the parcels on the table he exclaimed, "At last my luck's in." Then he dropped into a chair, exhausted. He had obtained a situation, and the unexpected seemed to knock all the wind out of him. While he was calming himself his wife and child were inspecting the parcels.

Yes, there was no doubt about him being in luck's way, for there was sufficient evidence on the table in the shape of eggs, butter, tea, sugar and such like.

Of course his wife and child wanted to know all about it. "It was this way," he said. "I went to the Bureau, thinking it would be the usual 'nothing to-day,' but to my astonishment they sent me after a caretaker's job, and to cut a long story short, I got it."

But the inquisitive pair wanted to know more, so he had to continue with the story.

"Well, it's at Stonehouse Mansions, and I'm to have thirty shillings a week." He was not only to be caretaker, but liftman also. His predecessor had been discharged for getting drunk and letting the lift come down with a crash, thereby injuring himself and two others. The goods on the table he had bought with money advanced him by the secretary of the mansions.

There was soon a bright fire burning in the grate, and a good meal on the table. Then he played with his child until it was time for her to go to bed.

Kneeling down by the side of her mother his little child repeated her prayers. Then she climbed on her mother's knees. "Have you no other prayers to say?" asked her mother. For a moment the child was silent—then clasping her little hands together she placed them against her mother's breast, and said, "God, I's glad 'cause daddy's got work. Pease make more men drunk, so some more little girls' daddies can get work."

Her father laughed. Her mother was shocked—too shocked indeed to utter a word, so she gently p'aced the child in her cot.

For the remainder of the evening husband and wife discussed whether strong drink was a curse or a blessing in disguise.

* * * * * * *

Not far from Stonehouse Mansions there lives another man, his wife and child—the discharged caretaker. It is bed-time, and the child is saying her prayers. And the principal prayer is that all strong drink may be banished out of the world!

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CLXXVIII.

[In this column, every week, we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

ANOTHER BLUE-JACKET THROWN ON THE SCRAP-HEAP.

The subject of this appeal is 38 years of age. He served in the Navy as boy, ordinary seaman, and "A.B." for a period of seven years, when he was invalided through deafness. He received a bonus of £4 only. After returning to civil life a specialist restored his hearing, and he was able to join the Royal Naval Reserve, and served in it for 11 years, when he was again discharged as medically unfit—this time with paralysis. His character, while in both the Royal Navy and the Reserve, is marked "Very Good." He is now totally unable to work. To make matters worse he has an invalid wife. Through the kindness of a few friends he has been able to get an invalid chair, which he can work himself by hand. If he can obtain from our readers sufficient money to start him in a little newspaper business he will be exceedingly grateful.

We have received the following amounts which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CLXXI.—F. G. A. (Ottawa), 3s.

CLXXVI.—"Rassus," 1s.; "Jap," 5s.; "Joben," 20s.; "Teddy," 1s.; H. and A. C., 4s.; "An Amateur," 2s. 6d.; E. L. S., 2s.; C. T., 1s.; F. W. C., 2s. 6d.

CLXXVII.—"Chum," 2s.; "Nuggett," 2s. 6d.; "Veboj," 2s.; "Broxholme," £2; S. S., 5s.; R. C., 2s.; W. D., 1s.; G. A. O., 2s.

THE RISING IN ULSTER.

Have you heard of the rising in Ulster,
The rising without any warning?
When Home Rule was the cry
They declared they would die—
And now you know why,
Just there and just then,
Thrice ten thousand men
Arose in Ulster this morning!

When the loyal sons of Ireland
Heard of the conspiracy,
How Home Rule would be forced on them,
Cried they, "Never shall this be!
Such a crime we will not suffer,
Shall we totter 'neath the yoke?
No! Tell Asquith and tell Redmond
They'll be sorry that they spoke!"

All the young men have been marching,
Practising and shooting guns,
All the old men have been training,
Fit to prop their stalwart sons;
Invocations have they muttered
To this patron saint and that,
You could hear them, "Bless old Ireland,
Captain Craig, and bless St. Pat!"

Arms have been secreted daily,
Ammunition has been lodged;
It has all been done in secret,
Molly's prying eyes were dodged.
Thirty thousand men of Ulster
Armed beneath the p'liceman's nose,
Thirty thousand men of Ulster
On this very morn arose!

Have you heard of the rising in Ulster;
How Ulster arose in its might?
Oh, they rose up this morn,
It was soon after dawn,
And, as sure as you're born,
Thrice-ten thousand men
Will lie down again—
They will lie down at bedtime to-night!

K.Y.Z.

MRS. BULL'S Unique New Feature—See Page 125.

WHAT INDIA THINKS OF KEIR HARDIE.

By Richard Hart.

[*We know what Mr. Hardie thinks of India, and the knowledge is in no way valuable. The greater part of India has not heard of Mr. Hardie's existence, despite the famous tour.*]

Certain infatuated Babus who still remember Mr. Hardie speak to Europeans of him in studied tones, and, with gestures of awe, remark that he is "*still* Member of Parliament." Less than a handful of native editors print his name infrequently, accompanied by the hope that he will presently "do something," the "something" being anything from ordering all the Government posts to be delivered to him and his friends, to the pardoning of assassins who have murdered unoffending Englishmen with bullets or blown up women and babies in Tuticorin with bombs. The unrestful Bengalis shake their heads and say, "Alas! he is an old man. What can do?" The native of India of all castes has a lively appreciation of speech and presence. Unfortunately for Mr. Hardie, his tones are not those of "a real Sahib" and his presence is not "*The* Presence" loved by Indians in their leaders. A little, white-headed, shaggy-bearded, roughly-spoken, roughly-habited, hollow-eyed man, with the marks of soil, toil, and impatient worrying upon him, is far from the Oriental's ideal of chosen patriot and conqueror of princes. The Indian, though a Babu, is not a Socialist. Shades of the land of caste and blood-tie, how can he be? He talks, thinking it necessary as a proof of British civilisation and education, but which of all the talkers has broken caste or will eat with the outcast? Not one. And Mr. Hardie, again, unfortunately, from the Indian view-point, has no caste at all. How can a man not recognised as a power or an equal by the Sahibs influence or effectively fight the Sahibs? "Keir Hardie insults the King-Emperor and the King-Emperor bears it. Therefore, Keir Hardie is greater than the King-Emperor," said a Bengali at a meeting in Calcutta in 1910, after one of Mr. Hardie's efforts to attract attention. "Son of a mule," retorted a well-known Begali agitator and writer, "does the elephant deign to hear the dhoby's donkey?"

Bazaar-Talk.

During his rapid and not wholly beneficial visit to India Mr. Hardie was hailed as an "angel" by a tiny section of the not large native Press. It was told that he treated all men as his equals and shook hands and listened to any syce or toddy-shop keeper. "So different from the Collectors and Governors!" wept these scribes in mournful ecstasy. "Humph," quoth all the little "Clubs for Native Gentlemen Only," reading with grimness, "what manner of man is this? Are *we* sons of sweepers and cooks?" After his flying apparition had touched and passed a town, the bazaars were full of comical stories. His mannerisms and oppressive sympathy were mimicked as only the bazaar can mimic to a circle of acutely-enjoying traders and merchants. "Have *you* ennn-y gr-rievance or injust-ice of which to complain-n?" was solemnly asked a grinning jeweller by a stolid banker, and the grave listeners turned their dark eyes on each other with twinkles. The "bedizened semi-rulers" were a little while ago Mr. Hardie's self-claimed brothers in affliction under the English yoke. Now there is nobody in India but the Gaekwar. Come, come, Mr. Hardie, what about your feelings toward the Nizam and your proffered love to Mysore?

A Benediction.

Mr. Hardie had at first, on the amazing tour, an Indian secretary who, contrary to custom, avowedly served him without pay and purely for honour and the reverence he felt for so great a man. It was a disadvantage to Mr. Hardie that when the secretary had made himself familiar with each detail of Mr. Hardie's plans, projects, and papers, and had earned some reputation for his energy in the journals, he should have been compelled "by domestic occurrences" to return to his home and usual avocations. The smile that is so characteristic of India is still sometimes seen among those who were privileged to know Mr. Hardie and the secretary. India, the little bit that is aware of him yet, hopes Mr. Hardie will remember her kindly—she adores a man with a sense of humour—when he drinks from the silver tea and coffee service she gave him.

A THEATRICAL AND VARIETY FORECAST.

SOME PRESS CUTTINGS IN THE YEAR 1915.

[*It is anticipated that the new Licensing Rules relating to Theatres and Music Halls will have a marked effect upon the programmes of the future.*]

By Philip Ashbrooke.

"Sir Herbert Tree has gone for an extended period to the Tivoli, where he tops the bill, and his singing of 'Meet Me in the Dome' and 'The Manager's Lament' is proving the greatest draw that the well-known variety house in the Strand has ever offered to its patrons. During his absence his place has been occupied at His Majesty's Theatre by that rising Shakespearean actor, Mr. T. E. Dunville, whose performance of 'Malvolio,' in 'Twelfth Night,' is calling forth the highest praise."—*The Chimes.*

"Visitors to the London Hippodrome must not on any account miss Mr. Bourchier's sensational tramp cycling turn. The well-known comedian's act, in which he is assisted by his charming wife, is so amazingly clever that we have almost become reconciled to his temporary desertion of the 'legitimate' stage. Hardly less successful is Mr. Martin Harvey, whose imitation of a performing seal (with really marvellous effects produced by Professor Max Reinhardt) helps to make the evening a memorable one."—*The Comet.*

"Last evening, before a brilliant and representative audience, Mr. Lewis Waller produced at the Lyric Theatre a revival of his greatest success 'Monsieur Beaucaire.' Since the esteemed actor's long stay in the States—where he has acquired an American accent that we shall shortly have an opportunity of enjoying in his series of coon song matinées—he has come to realise that he is no longer fitted for the part, and consequently he has engaged that vastly improved young actor Mr. George Robey for the present season. Mr. Robey, looking handsomer than ever, had a success that can only be described as overpowering, and the manliness of his bearing, his *debonnair* deportment, and his truly fervent love making resulted in all records being broken in curtain calls. We can confidently foresee that Mr. Robey's position as *the* matinée idol is now unassailable. The cast was good throughout, but a word must be said for the truly touching performance of Miss Marie Lloyd as Lady Mary; anything sweeter and more tender it would be impossible to imagine."—*The Morning News.*

"A few nights ago we paid a return visit to Covent Garden Opera House, where all London is now flocking to see the Anglo-Russian dancers. As the title may be somewhat confusing, we would point out that the troupe consists of leading metropolitan dancers, who in a most praiseworthy spirit spent a week-end in St. Petersburg in order to study the art on the spot. Perhaps the choicest item in a programme of entrancing loveliness was a ballet entitled 'The Legend of the Steppes,' the music being by the famous Russian composer M. Hopoffski. As the former Sir George Alexander surprised even his most fervent admirers by his agility and the wonderful realism of his pantomime; the anguish he expressed when, after crossing the centre width of the stage on one toe, he sees the maiden lying dead in a bower of rose leaves, must be seen to be appreciated. The moment is too poignant to be described in print. Space does not permit us to refer to the programme at length, but the performance of Miss Connie Ediss, as 'The Beloved,' merits a passing reference, if only on account of the movements which she refrained from making. Absolute stillness demands a special talent that is very rare on our stage in these days of fifteen houses a night."—*Evening Notes.*

"The concert of the National Sunday League which took place last night at the Empire must be counted as one of the most successful of the present series. Mr. Pelissier used his fine voice with tremendous effect, and his truly inspiring rendering of 'Lohengrin's Narration' called forth thunders of applause. He also gave that classic little gem, 'I wish I were a tiny bird.' When he had finished there was hardly a dry eye in the audience.—*The Musical Globe.*

For Our Mammoth Football Competition—See Page iii. of Cover.

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"SLAVES OF THE ROAD."

THE REAL FACTS ABOUT COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

By NORMAN TIPTAFT.

[*Mr. Tiptaft replies to the recent article, by "A Victim," on the "Slaves of the Road," and urges the importance of more general combination.*]

With all the goodwill in the world to help the commercial traveller to improve his position, and while agreeing with some of the remarks made in a recent article in JOHN BULL, entitled "Slaves of the Road," by "A Victim," anyone with a knowledge of the facts is compelled to admit that the writer has absurdly exaggerated the evils of which he complains, while proposing no practical remedy as to how these evils may be removed. In addition there are some statements as to figures which, to put it mildly, bear very little relation to strict veracity.

"Victim" gives one to understand that the number of commercial travellers in the United Kingdom is 200,000. Another estimate places the number at 64,000, a much more likely figure. One must, of course, discriminate between the *bona-fide* commercial traveller and insurance agents, hawkers, pedlars and itinerant vendors, who have no claim to be regarded as commercial travellers at all, and it is these latter I suspect that "Victim" has included to make up the number in his estimate.

"Not 25 per cent.," says "Victim," "of *bona-fide* commercial travellers have their expenses covered, while not more than 10 per cent. receive a salary and expenses." He has absolutely no proof at all of such figures. I have this week asked twenty commercial travellers, chosen absolutely at random from men I have met in the various commercial rooms, on what basis they were paid. Of the twenty, twelve were on salary and expenses; six on salary, expenses and commission; one on expenses and commission; and only one entirely on commission, and he is probably making anything up to £400 a year.

I don't wish the man on the road to get from that the idea that all commercial travellers are prosperous—they are not—but a statement that not 25 per cent. of them have their expenses covered, while only 10 per cent. receive a salary and expenses, is simply not true.

THE TRAVELLER *v.* THE CLERK.

Then "Victim" makes the astounding statement that the worst paid employés of any firm are the men on the road. This may be excellent journalism as far as arousing public opinion goes, but it is a terminological inexactitude of the most pronounced type. If there be a badly-paid member of an ordinary firm it is the average clerk. Clerks—good clerks—are as plentiful as blackberries in September, and consequently, in accordance with the law of supply and demand, are to be had at starvation wages. Besides, there is a standard above which the clerk *cannot* rise. He cannot be more than accurate and rapid. The commercial traveller, on the other hand, is not nearly as plentiful, and there is hardly any limit to the turnover he can do—the result being, of course, that he is far better paid. If, as "Victim" suggests, the traveller is the worst-paid servant of the firm, how is it that there is always such keen competition among the inside men to get a traveller's billet?

The suggestion that a traveller suffers a hardship by being paid monthly, and that he is compelled to continually get "subs." from his employer, after the fashion of a bricklayer's labourer, because he usually hasn't sufficient money of his own to keep him going, is on a par with the other weird and wonderful statements that "Victim" makes.

A CHANGING FIRM GATHERS NO MONEY.

Again, "Victim" says that the old-fashioned system of engaging travellers for long terms is done away with; that a modern firm changes its travellers frequently because each new one brings in a fresh set of customers. Any firm which perpetually changes its travellers soon finds itself in bankruptcy. Take the most successful business houses, and you will find that they have had their travellers with them for long periods. Buyers, both in the wholesale and retail, like to do business with people they know, and are quick to resent a constant change of travellers. If "Victim" does actually know anything about the subject on which he writes, he must be aware that one of the most difficult things on the road is to follow another traveller. Customers have grown used to him and his methods, and, however good his successor may be, it takes months—sometimes years—to do as well as the man who went before.

That some commercial travellers are badly paid is, of course, true, but, man for man, they earn far higher wages than the indoor staff, in addition to having a freedom from restraint which is worth more than any difference in salary.

All these things, however, being admitted—and as to their accuracy let the reader ask any traveller of his acquaintance—it yet remains to be said that commercial travellers *do* suffer from very real grievances.

There are firms—not a large proportion, but still some—who make the traveller's life almost unendurable. They demand from him, daily, a written account of how he has spent every minute of his time; the exact hour he called on each customer, what he said, the reason stated if no order was given, and a lot of other information. I have known men to come in tired out at 8 or 9 o'clock at night, and then sit down to do a three or four-hours' report.

Other houses enforce a lot of absurd restrictions, which are very annoying, but the chief cause of discomfort to the traveller is not his firm at all, but the men on whom he has to call. Here there is ground for genuine complaint, for while some buyers are courteous, prompt and considerate, others treat the traveller as something worse than a dog. His time is considered of absolutely no value. It is not an uncommon thing for a buyer to force a traveller to call three or four times and then finally turn him away without an order. There is a type of buyer, too, despite the Secret Commissions Act, who declines to place an order unless he is bribed. No one, of course, can say how much is actually paid to-day in secret commissions, but the amount must be enormous.

HOW TO REMEDY GRIEVANCES.

What can be done to remedy the grievances the commercial traveller has? The only thing, of course, is combination, and "Victim" undoubtedly states the truth when he says the snobbishness of some of the men on the road is such as to make effective combination almost impossible. It is safe to say that not one traveller in four belongs to the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association, while, as for those who do, their combination is mainly of the sick and provident order. What the commercial traveller needs is a trade union, with representives in Parliament—a union that, by getting all the best men into it, could practically compel the employers to engage none but union men, a union which could restrict the hours of labour and wring decent treatment and civility from the buyers who at present do not indulge in those qualities. The present association has, of course, no such power, and when its general secretary stood for Parliament he was compelled to do so *as a private individual* and *not* as representing the Association—there was, in fact, a heated discussion as to whether he should be allowed to stand at all. That might possibly have been on the ground that, as things are—or were—he was compelled to run under the banner of one of the big political parties. No such stigma could attach to any commercial traveller standing as candidate for a *Business Government*, and it really seems to me that something might be done in that direction. Commercial travellers are *Business* men; they need a trade union to bring pressure to bear on employers and buyers alike, and they need capable *Business* representatives in Parliament—only so can they better their conditions. Will they so organise?

The answer of the prophets is "Wait and see."

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Something Special for Wife, Sister, and Daughter—See Page 125.

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THE NEW FOOD.

BY GREATREX NEWMAN.

[*A morning paper has discovered that the gum on the back of postage stamps is full of nourishment, and is very sustaining. Below we give a few of the unsolicited testimonials not received by the Postmaster-General.*]

MR. T. BURGESS writes :—

"I beg to deny the numerous statements which are being attributed to me by the proprietors of various patent foods, regarding the nourishment I took during my Channel swim. I hereby declare that the only food I had was the gum off one penny and two halfpenny stamps, which I found most sustaining. Several times during the swim I was on the point of giving up owing to exhaustion, but another lick enabled me to stick it."

MISS PHYLLIS DARE writes :—

"You will doubtlessly have read my charming little book entitled 'From School to Stage,' which I wrote when I was sixteen (two years ago next week). Well, since its publication I have been simply inundated with requests to write a sequel, and I am at last—somewhat reluctantly—going to do so. It will be entitled 'From Stage to Dressing Room,' and will contain a frontispiece of Zena with the baby. It will be in the 1s. edition, and you will be well advised to order your copy now, as there is sure to be a big rush. I am enclosing eight photographs of myself in different positions, and if you will send your autograph album I shall be most pleased to sign it—but don't forget to enclose an envelope for its return."

"P.S.—I find your stamp gum most sustaining during my literary work."

MR. LLOYD GEORGE writes :—

"After an all-night sitting I find nothing so refreshing as your stamp gum. In accordance with my policy of 'Don't Tax the People's Food' I have decided not to include it in the next Budget."

"FOR TWENTY YEARS A MARTYR" writes :—

"For twenty years I was a martyr to indigestion, and never once had a really good meal. I saw scores of doctors and specialists, but they all said my case was hopeless. I tried all the patent foods and remedies, but could not derive any benefit. I was little more than a skeleton, and was despairing of ever getting better, when a friend advised me to try some of your stamp gum. I took just a small dose at first—two licks off a halfpenny one—but the result was simply marvellous. I persevered with the treatment, and at the end of a week my friends could hardly recognise me, I had grown so fat. I shall have much pleasure in recommending your food to all sufferers."

P.S.—"When the gum has been removed, can the stamps be sewn or glued on to envelopes for postage purposes? If not, what allowance is made for return of 'empties'?"

MR. EUGEN SANDOW writes :—

"For promoting a good digestion, soothing the nerves, strengthening the muscles, and generally stimulating and toning up the system, the only thing which is superior to your stamp gum is my new 'Health Beef-Tea.' (Send penny stamp for free sample.)"

"A LANCASHIRE LAD" writes :—

"Er, lad, tha' knows there be nout to touch it. Me an' our John Willie an' our Mary Ellen as 'ad some, an' we be a-goin' ter stick to it, by gum!"

MESSRS. CADBURY BROS. write :—

"It is absolutely pure, and therefore best. To be obtained at all Post Offices in the United Kingdom."

The best way to get a Business Government is to develop a business mind in the electorate. Get people to *think* on business lines and they will *act* accordingly. So many people either think the wrong way, or they don't think at all. We would draw their attention to a course of study which has been recommended by us from time to time, and which is issued by the Pelman School of the Mind, an institution of proved efficiency, as seen from its roll of 120,000 students and its unique list of testimonials. As will be seen on referring to a double-page announcement in this issue, a special offer is being made to readers of JOHN BULL.

COMPETITION FOR INSURANCE AGENTS.

[*Below we give the "experience" which is the most interesting of those sent in by the agents who competed.*]

THE AGENT IN THE UNDERWORLD.

As you know, we insurance agents cater for all classes. Part of my round takes me into the lowest slums of this town, and that's saying a lot. Amongst my members is one of the lower class *demi-monde*, who is paying on a small policy on her mother. I had repeatedly urged her to take up one on herself, but it was no use, she saying she was not in a dying mood.

A few weeks ago I called as usual on the young lady, and she appeared at the door with a face in the condition one would expect to see after attempting to stop a young earthquake. "Hullo," I said, "been having some fun?" "Yes," she replied, "and if you watch the police news you will see that that —— swine of mine will be having some fun shortly. But before we go any further, Mister Clubman, I want to insure myself for tuppence a week." "All right," I said, and I soon got the necessary document filled up and signed. I then asked her why this sudden rush into extravagant insuring, and I thought her answer was a "knock-out."

"I am afraid he will do me in, and I don't want to be buried by the parish."

It appeared that she and her "bully" had had a "bust-up," and she had got considerably the worse of it. She had given him in charge, but they had let him out on bail, and she was in a terrible fright over it. But, I thought, as I left the house or hovel, whichever you like to call it, what a life for a woman; going in hourly dread of being murdered—for that is what it amounted to—and so real was the danger in her mind that she would insure to secure for herself a decent funeral!

In the underworld that I come across in my travels one meets with many pathetic scenes, but the incident related above is to my mind one out of the common, and both pathetic and tragic. You will see by the newspaper cutting attached that the brute got twelve months' at the Sessions here last week, and the girl is once more living in peace. But she intends to keep up her insurance—"One never knows," she says.

For obvious reasons I have mentioned no names, and, as this town is not exactly one of the largest, if this experience in your judgment deserves a place in your paper I should like my name suppressed also.

"THE BETRAYAL."

[*A Little Story after the style of "Lancing."*]

"Judas! Judas!"

The cry rose hoarse and angry from the assembled multitude. This interloper had come into their midst unwelcomed, and the huge concourse of Jews and Gentiles alike howled his name in execration. The favourite of the people was the King, in whom they had placed their faith, in the full knowledge that his past life had been spent in unselfish endeavour on their behalf.

"Judas! Judas!" Again the bitter cry from the excited throats of the vast army.

Was this unknown, unheard-of stranger to come amongst them, to cause them misery and disappointment? Was the idol of the people to be humbled, and were they to be betrayed into the hands of the Philistines by this despised and rejected of former days? It seemed so, and mutterings and curses hailed his approach.

The King had fallen. This stranger now sought to grasp from the people what was rightly theirs. Was it to be wondered that his triumph should be cursed and hated? Did he care? It seemed not, for with a final spurt he flashed past the post the winner of a sensational Grand National.

Betting: 50-1 Judas, 2-1 The King, 20-1 others.

"BRAININE" for Nerves and Worry.
All Chemists, 1s. 1½d.

Our £1,000 Football Prize nearly Won—150 Guineas Consolution Prizes awarded.—See Page 130.

TURN YOUR THOUGHTS INTO GOLD

£52-10-0

For Your Thoughts.

50 GUINEAS

for a Short Phrase descriptive of

MURATTI'S NEB-KA NO. 2 CIGARETTES.

The proprietors want a new phrase for this cigarette—something concise, catchy and descriptive to be used as an advertisement—such as their well-known phrase "For refined tastes"—and they are willing to pay well for it. Ladies as well as Gentlemen are eligible.

Just a few words that may strike you any time. Jot them down and send them in before February 15th, 1912, to "Neb-ka," Muratti's West End Depot, 28, Piccadilly, London, W. For each Phrase sent enclose a packer's ticket and picture card taken from a Neb-ka No 2 Cigarette tin.

The prizes to be awarded are:—

1st prize 50 guineas	—£52	10 0
10 prizes of £2 2 0 each	—£21	0 0
10 prizes of £1 1 0 each	—£10	10 0

and 50 consolation prizes of a 100 box of Neb-ka Cigarettes each.

Picture Cards without the packer's ticket are not eligible.

Entries may reach Muratti's at any time before February 15th, 1912, when the competition closes.

The names and addresses of the winners will be published in Muratti's advertisement in the *Daily Mail*, March 1st, 1912, and will be the only method of notification. The decision of the Selection Committee is final, and competitors enter on this distinct understanding.

Muratti's NEB-KA Cigarettes

are manufactured exclusively of the Finest Selected Turkish Tobacco. Their unequalled quality makes them absolutely the greatest cigarette value in the world.

Sold in Boxes of 10 6½d., 20 1/1, 50 2/6, 100 5/-, by all Tobacconists.

Each box contains packer's tickets and picture card.

Pretty Furs for Pretty Names.

ADORI

The Perfection of Japanese Toilet Soaps

Box of 3 Tablets, 1s. 3d.

POSTAGE FREE.

DAINTY JAPANESE HAIR FAN ENCLOSED IN EACH BOX.

SECOND GREAT PRESENT DISTRIBUTION.

1st Prize, Sealskin Coat Value 100 gs.
2nd „ Mink Coat ... „ 75 gs.
3rd „ Persian Lamb Coat „ 50 gs.
4th Prize Musquash Coat Value 40 gs.
5th „ Sable Set ... „ 40 gs.
and 245 Consolation Prizes of Beautiful Furs.

To effectively introduce Adori into every household, a further set of Seasonable Prizes will be awarded to the senders of the prettiest three Christian names for a girl.

Imagine that you are selecting three Christian names for your own little girl. Which do you think would be the prettiest? Names such as Gertrude, Ivy, Jessie, Kittie, Lillie, Mary, Nellie, are all pretty, but you must know many such pretty or prettier names, including Miss Adi Blanche, Miss Claire Romaine, Miss Madaline Rees, etc.

A committee of the prettiest actresses in London will act as judges of the competition, and prizes will be awarded in order of merit as they decide, and whose decision must be accepted as final. Winners' names will be posted direct to every customer.

The Competition will close on Thursday, February 27th, and to ensure prompt delivery it is advisable that orders should be posted *at once*.

MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON (late Drury Lane) writes:—
DEAR SIR,—*I feel I must send you a little letter to tell you how delighted I am with the Adori Soap. It is delightful to use, and a bath with Adori is the most refreshing thing I know. Everyone who values their complexion owe you a debt of gratitude for introducing Adori Soap. I can hardly realise my good luck in winning the lovely white Fox Set. It is wonderful, and seems absurd that such a valuable thing can be won for 6d. A thousand thanks.*

NURSE HOSKISON, 20, Battersea Rise, Clapham Common, S.W., writes:—
DEAR SIRS,—*Thank you so much for the beautiful furs you have sent me, they are indeed grand, and I wish the Adori the best of luck, and I will do my very best to push it, as well as use it myself. I have enclosed other orders, as well as given forms away.*

MRS. WITHINGTON, The Vicarage, Great Ayton, Yorks, writes:—
Mrs. Withington wishes to acknowledge with thanks the handsome set of furs which she received this morning from the Adori Manufacturing Company, as their third prize awarded to her in the name competition of December last. She encloses postal order for 3s. with six orders for further tablets of soap and names for the new competition.

MISS R. MORRIS, North Eastern Hospital, Tottenham, writes:—
DEAR SIRS,—*I am delighted with set of furs forwarded to me as result of competition. It has greatly been admired. Several of my friends are sending orders*

MRS. S. MORLEY, Soberton Vicarage, Hants., writes:—
DEAR SIR,—*I have just received the beautiful fur stole and muff you have so generously sent me as a Consolation Prize, and although our post goes out almost immediately, I must send you my heartiest and most sincere thanks for it, and assure you that I will, as far as it lies in my power, make your Adori Soap known, and we will certainly send you an order from time to time. Again thanking you most heartily, I am, Sir, &c.*

MRS. WOODHOUSE, Preston, Hull, Yorks., writes:—
Many thanks for mole set received this morning, which were far beyond my expectations. Wishing your soap complete success.

Post the Order Form below direct to ADORI, KING'S HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C.

John Bull, Jan 27. **ORDER FORM.**

I enclose Postal Order and stamps for 1s. 3d., for which please send me (postage paid) one Box of Adori Toilet Soap. I think the three prettiest Christian names for a girl are:—

1..... 2..... 3.....

1..... 2..... 3.....

1..... 2..... 3.....

FULL NAME .....

ADDRESS.....

.....

Three selections of 3 names are allowed for each box of Adori purchased.

Selections for additional Boxes purchased may be written on plain paper.

TO EARN MORE MONEY.

JOHN BULL'S £2 2s. OFFER TO READERS.

There is a Gold Mine in your Brain, and JOHN BULL *will help you to "work it" so as to increase your income by £100 to £1,000 per annum.*

The reading of this article will help many to make more money than they have ever made before.

You can be one of these money-makers, too.

For a special arrangement for the benefit of our readers has been made with the world-famous Pelman School of the Mind, whereby you can train your mental powers to make more money, taking the complete business-training system at a reduction of £2 2s. in the usual fees.

The Pelman School has a method of training which wonderfully develops the mental powers. 120,000 of the leading mental workers of the country have benefited by this training. Among those who have received the Pelman Course of Mind and Memory Training are His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and famous Barristers, Solicitors, Authors, Actors, Artists, Physicians, Business men, as well as many others, a goodly number of whom attribute their almost immediate rapid increase of earning power to this wonderful course of Pelman brain training.

By this special JOHN BULL plan, which is easy and pleasure-giving in itself, you do actually train your brain to earn more money. You also acquire those special mental qualities which enable those who possess them (you in this case) to make money easily and in large amount.

A PLAN FOR "TRYERS."

This is essentially a plan for those of all ages who "want to get on." It is a plan for "tryers."

Many who adopted this system last year have now secured highly-paid positions because of the mental qualities developed by this JOHN BULL plan. How glad you will be as you, too, earn more money as the reward for developing your money-making faculties on this same plan. How disappointed you will feel if you let this opportunity slip by you to-day for some one else—perhaps a keen rival and competitor—to secure instead!

Those readers who want to "make more" of themselves should enrol for this great Mind and Memory Training Course to-day, as only a limited number can be enrolled under this reduced price arrangement.

THE "LIVE" LAWS OF MENTALITY-MAKING.

The powers of the Brain respond, in general, to the same laws as the powers of the Body. Both Mentality and Muscularity are developed by Exercise.

The Pelman Mind Training System (which you can learn between now and Easter by giving two hours a week to its study) is the result of the scientific organisation of the Laws of Mentality-making.

Out of a multiplicity of mental laws and regulations, Mr. Pelman has, after infinite scientific research and experiment, picked out and disentangled just those important "live laws" which produce, when practised, those rare qualities which make one man come to the front and achieve success out of thousands of competitors, whilst others are left in the mire of mediocrity.

Further, Mr. Pelman has arranged these laws on a system which is easy for you to acquire and most fascinating to learn. And all the time you are conscious that it is doing you good, improving the quality of your mind, and increasing your capacity for making money.

The Pelman System is taught through the post, and you will be presented with all the books and papers necessary for carrying it through.

By starting now you will by Easter vastly improve your mental powers and money-making capacity in the following respects:—

— DEVELOP —	— CORRECT —
—Mental Concentration,	—Mind Wandering,
—Mental Vision (nothing escapes your notice),	—Lack of Perception,
—Rapid Mental Assimilation,	—Slowness to Learn and Comprehend,
—Power of Instantly Seizing the Central Points (strong and weak) of any Proposition,	—Habit of being entangled amidst irrelevant details,
—Wide Intellectual Grasp,	—Narrow running-in-a-groove
—Magnificent Memory,	—Forgetfulness,
—Determination,	—Hesitancy,
—Self-Confidence,	—Dependence on others,
—Original Ideation,	—Merely Imitative, copying "follow - my - leader" faculties.
—Mental Energy,	—The weakness of being Dominated, "Talked Down," and Silenced by other people.
—The Power of Dominating Others.	

By means of the new 1912 Pelman Mind Training Plan you are able to master Foreign Vocabularies, scientific data, intricate sets of figures, facts and dates, and to commit whole passages to memory in from one-quarter to one-eighth the usual time.

It enables you to remember (and never again forget) expressions, facts, faces, arguments, figures, dates, names, places, appointments, addresses, engagements, references, prices, and a hundred other invaluable things.

It enables you

1.—to think logically,
2.—to reason soundly,
3.—to act with decision,
4.—to master the most difficult subjects,
5.—to be "man (or a woman) with ideas."

It teaches you to be creative—that rare power in such demand in the world of business.

The official "Pelman Magazine of the Mind" sent free to every enquirer on application, shows you how valuable this System is to—

a Everyone studying for examinations,
b Barristers, Solicitors, Law Students,
c Doctors, and Medical Students,
d Chemists and Chemists' Assistants,
e Salesmen, Buyers, Shopkeepers, Shop-assistants,
f Commercial Travellers,
g Bankers, Managers, Cashiers, Bank Clerks,
h Authors and Journalists,
i Soldiers and Sailors (officers and men),
j School-masters, Mistresses, Tutors, Governesses, Pupil Teachers,
k Students of Foreign or "Dead" Languages,
l Financiers, Stockbrokers, Stockbrokers' Clerks,
m Clergymen, Ministers, Sunday-school Teachers,
n Civil Servants of every grade,
o Insurance Agents, Clerks and Canvassers,
p Politicians, Lecturers, and Public Speakers,
q Postmen, Policemen, Detectives and Officials,
r Artizans, Foremen, Mechanics,

In fact, everyone who wishes (1) to get on, (2) to make more money, (3) to rise in the world, and (4) to be successful, will find this Pelman Course (so simple and interesting and inexpensive to learn), absolutely invaluable.

FREE MAGAZINE FOR READERS OF "JOHN BULL" WHO "WANT TO GET ON."

Do you want to be Positive, not Negative?
Do you want to be Creative, not a mere Copyist?
Do you want to Lead, not Follow?
Do you want to be Free and Comfortably "on top," and not squeezed and uncomfortable "below" others?

Do you want to be wealthy, powerful and famous, not poor and insignificant? Then enrol to-day for this JOHN BULL Course of Pelman Mind Training. Send the following JOHN BULL £2 2s. Fee Saving Coupon at once.

FREE "PELMAN MAGAZINE OF THE MIND."

If you don't send the JOHN BULL Coupon to-day write for the "Pelman Magazine of the Mind" first. It will be sent you gratis and post free. It will tell you more about this fascinating plan of improving the earning-power of your mind—a system you are certain to adopt once you have read the Magazine describing it. To get a copy of this valuable "Pelman Magazine of the Mind" free, write to-day to the Pelman School of the Mind, 15, Wenham House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C. It will be sent you by return. Don't delay. Write now. To-day is your opportunity—the opportunity to take the tide that leads straight on to Fortune instead of remaining stranded amidst the sands and shallows of the commonplace and the poorly-paid.

THE FASCINATION OF THE PELMAN COURSE.

There is no drudgery about the Pelman Course.

Herein lies one of its chiefest charms. The exercises are easy and fascinating. They develop your brain as physical exercise does your muscles. The result is permanent. There is no tedious study, no poring over dry-as-dust tomes and treatises.

The Pelman Exercises increase your ability and your earning power. They improve your memory. They increase your happiness and success by enabling your brain to raise you above the circumstances that surround you.

The Pelman System trains your mind to perform its complex functions with ease and precision. It develops mental alertness. It develops your power of concentration. There are no tricks of memorising. Money Dividends pour in from an Investment in Pelman-trained "Grey Matter." Invest your "grey matter" this way. Coin your Brains into Sovereigns. Make your Mind a Money-Mint. The Pelman System shows you how. Others have done it. You a as good as they were before they adopted the system. Follow this plan and be as good as they are now. "Make Good" and make your fortune.

WHY IT WILL PAY YOU TO ENROL TO-DAY.

Enrol for the Pelman Systen to-day. You have the opportunity of doing so now at a much reduced price, saving, indeed, two guineas.

The record of successes made by students of the Pelman system is an astonishing one.

Letters are received every day at the Pelman School from Directors, Managers, Sales-Managers, Head Clerks, Salesmen, Commercial Travellers, Canvassers, Cashiers, Book-keepers, Clerks, Shop-keepers, Shop Assistants, Engineers and business and professional men and women testifying to the enormous value the Pelman System has been to them, how it has enabled them to do more business, earn more income, secure better positions and how it has doubled, in many cases trebled and quadrupled, the earning-power of their brains.

A Pelman-trained mind means regular employment.

Unemployment is rare amongst "specialized" occupations, common amongst those occupations which are over-stocked.

A clerk belongs to an over-stocked occupation—but he speedily finds that the specialization given him by the Pelman System means for him increased salary, permanence of employment, rapidity of promotion, and the confidence of his employer.

Just as a statesman or eminent politician relies upon his staff or secretaries for his "facts" of which he alone is capable of making the best use, so employers and men high up in the business world are more and more coming to rely upon the memories of certain skilled assistants for the facts with which they "make money."

The confidential clerk or manager memorises the fact, passes it on to the employer at the right moment, and the employer thereupon turns it into gold or uses it as a business-getter.

This is an example of that "division of labour" which is so great a feature of the present day. It is the cause of the rapid progress made nowadays in every branch of industry and commerce.

The young ambitious man, who has learned the Pelman System gets splendid chances of promotion, increased income, magnificent opportunities of "getting on."

For a preparation for the higher ranks of Business and Finance a Pelman course is invaluable.

It enables you to remember the varying prices of stocks and other securities for months past, to grasp all those manifold facts and their relation to one another, which is the whole secret of successful management and money-making power, whether as a clerk, a cashier, a shop-assistant, a manager, a buyer, a commercial traveller, a stock-broker, a financier, a retail or wholesale tradesman, or the head of a firm of world-wide fame.

Whatever you are, or whatever your ambitions may be, you will find a course of Pelman Training the very best investment you have ever made in your life.

Read the following remarkable letters from business people. Read how—by following a short and fascinating course of Menti-Culture you can double, perhaps even treble or quadruple—the Income Value of your Brain.

It is an opportunity not to be missed.

Seize it to-day Send the following JOHN BULL £2 2s. Saving Coupon at once.

Train your brain on this plan and thus enable it to make more money for you just as Pelman-trained minds have made so much for others

From a Clerk:
"Your system has strengthened my memory wonderfully and I am pleased to be able to say that now the others in the offices are continually referring to me for information as I seem to have a better memory than any of them. The fee for your course is money well spent."

Merchant:
"Although I have not been able as yet to give as much time as I should have liked, I feel the benefit of the system already. I beg to thank you and to say that I consider your fee, to a business man, money well spent."

A Land Agent says:
"I wish to assure you of the great benefit I have derived. Although my course was interrupted by a long illness, no part of the good derived from your training was lost."

From a Grocer:
"Previous to having taken up the Course I was a Cronic subject to mind-wandering. I am pleased to inform you that I have derived considerable benefit, and feel my powers of concentration much stronger. cannot speak too highly of your scientific system of mental training which is simply perfect."

Shipping Clerk:
"The lesson on the memorization of figures is one o particular interest to me, and it is pleasing to me to say that the aid your system gives me has far exceeded my expectations."

From a Printer:
"On completion of your course I now take the opportunity of offering you my sincere thanks for the undoubted benefits I have received."

Shipbroker:
"The lessons are very interesting, and most logical and plain in principle. I enjoy the study of them, and feel benefit when I school myself into Pelman ways of thought."

Book-keeper:
"You leave the pupil to judge whether the system is rational or not. Well, in my opinion and experience of it, al that 's promised can be fulfilled"

From a Manufacturer:
"The simplicity and the perfectness of your Course of Training is a continual wonder to me. I am more capable of learning and memorizing things.'

First Aids to Money-Making.

One of the 12 Pelman lesons teaches you invaluable "First Aids to Money-Making." You can make use of these "First Aids" at once. They actually help you to make money quickly and safely. Think of your joy when you see your Bank Balance mounting up and up.

Join the ranks of the money-makers without loss of time by accepting this opportunity to-day at a reduction of Two Guineas.

"JOHN BULL" ENROLMENT COUPON.

Here is the JOHN BULL Enrolment Coupon, which will secure you the 12 lessons of the Pelman Course at a saving of Two Guineas if you will fill it in and send it at once before this Special Offer is withdrawn.

THIS "JOHN BULL" ENROLMENT COUPON SAVES YOU £2 2s.

To the Secretary, THE PELMAN SCHOOL OF THE MIND,
15 WENHAM HOUSE 4 BLOOMSBURY STREET, LONDON, W.C.

SIR,—*As a reader of* JOHN BULL *I am entitled to the £2 2s. reduction of the fee for the complete £5 5s. Course of Pelman Mind and Memory Training. I therefore enclose the reduced payment of £3 3s, and desire you to enrol me for the complete Course of Instruction in the same way as if I paid you the full fee of £5 5s.*

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Occupation..... *Date*.....

Remittances payable Pelman Schools, Ltd. A copy of this Form is acceptable.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS, AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty.

MY DEAR FIRST LORD,—Sorry as I am to interrupt you in the midst of the Belfast season, I think it is right I should call your attention to certain dangers connected with your present line of business, suggested to me by the death of Mr. R. Zimmerman, the German ship designer, at a time when, for anything I know to the contrary, he was beloved by all who knew him. As you have not had control of the high seas for long, you probably did not know Mr. Zimmerman to speak to, and it may be that you have never even heard his name. I must tell you, therefore, that Mr. Zimmerman, who was a German, joined the yard of Messrs. Caird, at Greenock, in 1873, that afterwards he was on the staff of Palmer's, at Jarrow, for eight years, and that subsequently he was in association with the late Mr. William John, as chief naval architect at the Barrow shipyard; and you will be good enough to observe, my dear First Lord, that all these great firms contract for the building of British warships. Having attained this high position as a naval designer in British yards, having learned all there was to learn, Mr. Zimmerman returned to Germany and became first shipbuilding director of the Germania Yard at Kiel, and afterwards shipbuilding director of the Vulcan Works at Stettin, retiring in 1910, and then dying.

I have not the slightest evidence which would give me reason to reflect in any way on the name or career of Mr. Zimmerman. That he was an exceedingly able man, that he used his talents in the honourable pursuit of his profession, that during his connection with British shipbuilding yards he was loyal to the country which employed him is not for me to doubt. But I ask you this, my dear First Lord: When a man of Mr. Zimmerman's capacity leaves British shipyards, with all the experience and knowledge acquired there, probably with first-hand intimation of designs in hand, is it not too much to expect of human nature that, as a director of his native German shipyards, he will decline to utilise, for the benefit of his Fatherland, everything which he had learnt from his old employers? How many more Germans are there employed as naval architects in British shipyards where our warships are being constructed? Few or many, they have their annual holiday. They probably spend some portion of it in their native land. How can it be guaranteed that they will hold their tongues? They naturally aspire to high places as naval designers in their own country, and if positions suitable to their talents are offered to them they will go—and they may go at a time when a great British warship of new design, about which they probably know nearly everything worth knowing, is upon the slips. Who can doubt that the German shipbuilding yard which acquires their services will acquire their completest knowledge? In any case, the question of the employment of Germans in high positions in British shipyards seems to merit enquiry, and I shall thank you to give to it that earnest attention which you have ever given to your duties as Minister of the Crown.

JOHN BULL.

To His Grace the Duke of Bedford.

YOUR GRACE,—I wonder whether you are aware that the people who hazarded their fortunes in developing the Aldwych site, and who covered much of that weed-grown wilderness with magnificent buildings, to the great improvement of the amenities of London, and of the pocket of the ground landlord, have met with little encouragement from the person who benefits most by their enterprise, and who will in future reap the whole of the profits. I could give you the names of two unsuccessful theatres from the builders of which the ground landlord derives £8,000 per annum (a sum out of all proportion to the real value of the sites), besides holding as security premises on which twice as much has been expended as was compulsory. And it is not as though the ground landlord were a poor man and must have his pound of flesh.

I hope I have said enough to put you upon enquiry as to the identity of the individual referred to.

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Rev. Huyshe Yeatman-Biggs, D.D., Lord Bishop of Worcester.

MY LORD BISHOP,—May I ask what steps your lordship is taking to correct the crazy eccentricities of Archdeacon Colley in the Church of St. Michael and All Angels at Stockton? The spectacle which the congregation were compelled to witness the other Sunday, when this ecclesiastical pantomimist had himself carried round the church in semblance of a coffined corpse, visible to them through a glass covering, may or may not be suited to a franc show at Montmartre, but it can be nothing less than a gross and scandalous offence in an edifice devoted to religious worship. In Paris it might be received with ecstatic laughter; in the church of St. Michael and All Angels it can only repel with disgust.

Not the wildest comedian of the lowest British music-hall would be permitted by the authorities to affront an audience with so nauseous an exhibition. "Not feeling to be getting any younger," announced this spiritual guide of the people, "I have had my coffin brought over from the rectory music room, and it is now before you in the chancel"; and then in sight of the congregation, and attired in cassock, surplice, stole, hood and biretta, he called for the bearers, entered the coffin, and was borne in solemn procession round the church—a staring imitation of a corpse in the perpendicular. "The procession having returned to the chancel," says the reporter, "the glass cover was again removed from the casket, which had been reared on end, and the body was heard to ejaculate, 'For this relief, much thanks.'" It is difficult, my lord, to write with restraint of such solemn foolery enacted in a church subject to your lordship's jurisdiction. Surely, too, it is time to ask yourself whether Archdeacon Colley is sufficiently sane to conduct religious services?

JOHN BULL.

To T. R. Knight, Esq., Clerk of the Parish Council, Sedgley, Staffordshire.

DEAR KNIGHT,—Good Day. Looking through one of the papers the other day I noticed an advertisement over your signature inviting applications, by order of the Council, for the vacant post of assistant overseer for the parish at a salary of £80 per annum. The applications were to be sent in to you personally, and canvassing was strictly prohibited. I think I am correct in saying, Tommy, that you received a large number of such applications, and in accord with those precedents to which I owe every respect I shall not doubt that they were opened and carefully considered with a view to discovering the most suitable applicant. I shall venture to assume, on the other hand, that all these applicants were put to various expenses and considerable inconvenience in replying to an advertisement which, on the face of it, appears to have been designed to fool them.

To be quite frank, Tommy, the only real candidate for the job was—Tommy. When you invited applications from the ends of the earth, you knew that the only man in it was—Tommy. Tommy started hot favourite with the Council; Tommy knew the course; Tommy knew the gee-gee; and Tommy knew long before he reached the winning post that he was Eclipse and the rest nowhere. It was "Tommy this and Tommy that, and send the rest away; the job is meant for Tommy Knight, so bid the rest good day; for Tommy is our clerk who gets two hundred pounds a year, and as he hasn't much to do—well, make him overseer; with Tommy at the helm, we'll play the old old game—he'll have another £80 to bless his honoured name"; and as you got the post, I think the least you can do is to send me a bottle of the best to drink your health.

JOHN BULL.

Recorder. Old Bailey, London.

Have no objection your dealing severely with men proved "pests to society," but do have mercy small offenders.

BULL.

Bishop of London, Khartoum.

Man just turned out house Willesden consequence having too many children. Woman just stated to magistrate that unable get rooms because of family. Please wire instructions immediately—if you have time.

BULL.

MRS. BULL'S Unique New Feature—See Page 125.

THE ULSTER "QUESTION."

REDMOND: "Shall we risk it, Winston?"

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

The nervousness of the Paris Bourse and the interruption of telegraphic communication with the Continent have been depressing features of late, but when Italy has made her peace with France about the captured French steamers, Paris will probably become more optimistic again. The stiff money rates here, moreover, could easily be relieved if Mr. Lloyd George, who has now returned to work, were to avoid the lock up of Treasury balances to the tune of seven millions more than last year (£16,983,685 against £10,057,069). It is bad for business and certainly prevents a further recovery in *Consols* and other gilt-edged securities. The settlement of the labour trouble in Lancashire is a "Bull" point for *Home Rails*, and if only the coal miners' strike can be avoided we should see a strong upward movement in the leading stocks, although the dividends so far announced, such as the *Great Eastern*, are on conservative lines, partly no doubt owing to the coal bogey. In the industrial market *Associated Cements* have turned dull and *Marconis* have again been largely dealt in, but *Marconis of Canada* were out of favour. *Van den Berghs* are changing hands at 47s. 6d., these shares being absorbed by investors, who are evidently encouraged, and rightly so, by the further rise in butter, which produces an ever-increasing consumption of margarine, in the manufacture of which the *Van den Bergh* Company is *facile princeps*. The dividend now paid for three years of 17½ per cent. yields 7¼ per cent. per annum on the investment, and it will rest only with the directors whether they will increase the dividend at the March meeting. *Inkran Cotton Estates* have continued to advance, and close at 1s. 3d.-1s. 6d. With the settlement of the cotton strike these shares will, no doubt, receive more attention. At last Thursday's Cannon Street meeting Sir George Farrar pluckily faced the music, and made out as good as case for himself and for the *East Rand Proprietary* as was possible under the circumstances. The recommendations of the meeting will be supported by him in Johannesburg, and the *Rand Mining Market* can breathe freely again. Some realisations for French account were apparently caused by the difficulty of our French allies obtaining correct information. This has also kept back *Rhodesians*, although the great amalgamation is now perfected, but *Rhodesia Exploration* at 1⅞ and *Shamvas, Eldorados, Falcons, Lonely Reefs*, etc., at present prices, are remarkably cheap and promising, and will in the course of the next few months rise to a higher level. Once the *Amalgamated Props.* meeting is surmounted, the way should be open for an upward movement. The shares in the *Northern Ontario Exploration Company*, to which I referred a month or two ago, have now advanced to ¾-⅞, large buying orders coming from Canada. This is not surprising, as with the advent of spring the *Porcupine goldfield* will go ahead again. *Hollinger Gold shares*, in which the company is largely interested, are up at 2¾, and when it is considered that the assets of the *Northern Ontario* work out to 1⅓, it will be seen that they are not likely to stand much longer below 1.

The Omnibus and Tube Combine.

The terms now published officially of the proposed fusion of the *Underground Electric Railways Company of London, Ltd.*, and the *London General Omnibus Company, Ltd.*, are even more favourable to the latter than had been stated in the preliminary announcements. The *Underground Company* offers to the *Omnibus* shareholders for every £100 stock £105 6 per cent. First Cumulative Income Debenture stock and £105 6 per cent. Income Bonds carrying interest from January 1, 1912, and 100 ordinary "A" shares, while the ordinary shareholders of the *Omnibus Co.* also receive from their company a cash bonus of £8 per £100 in respect of accumulated profits to December 31, 1911. These are handsome terms, and, as I stated last week, the *Omnibus* shareholders will be foolish to hold out for more, considering that competition by new 'bus companies is bound to come, and the talk about 30 or 35 per cent. being earned by the *General Omnibus Co.* is absurd. The 1911 figures represent only about 12½ per cent. By the above exchange of securities the *L.G.O.* shareholder gets a 6 per cent. debenture which practically assures him an income in perpetuity of 6 per cent., while the 6 per cent. Income Bonds and the "A" ordinary shares give him a fair interest in the speculative possibilities of the future. The *Metropolitan District* and the *London Electric Companies* are making steady progress, increased takings being coupled with decreased working expenses. When the earnings permit of the full dividend on the Income Bonds being paid, the "A" shares will get their chance, and although their nominal value is only 1s., they already stand at 8s. per certificate. Moreover, while the tubes are secure from competition, as Parliament would not authorise rival lines, the question of competition from other 'bus companies may become a serious one for the *L.G.O.*, and it will be greatly strengthened by the alliance with the tubes, as combined tickets will be devised with exceptional facilities. Under all the circumstances, the *Omnibus* shareholders, who have seen their stock decrease to 15¾ during the last few years, can have but one reasonable course—viz., to fall in at once with the proposal, which has already put the price up to 23²⁄₃.

Oil Shares Strong—Standard Oil of Mexico to the Front—Premier Oil and Pipe Line and Maikop in Favour.

The age of oil is coming. The substitution of oil for coal is a practical fact, and economically it will be an enormous gain to mankind. Oil is to be the great propelling power, and extraordinary developments are likely to be seen. Shareholders in sound oil concerns need not be worried by any temporary set-back in market values—the oil industry must grow, and before long the talked of "boom" movement in oil shares may start. In fact the oil share market is, after a reaction, showing renewed strength, especially *Mexican Oils, Premier Pipe Line* and *Maikops*. *Standard Oil of Mexico* deserve special attention, as being on the eve of what looks like big production. The bore is down about 2,000 feet, and within a short distance the oil zone will be reached. The property is in the heart of the big oil belt, not far from the world's greatest gusher, and in the midst of other properties owned by big and highly successful companies. The capital of the *Standard Oil Company of Mexico* is small; the possibilities are enormous, and if present indications turn out correct the shares, which are of 2s. each and at present stand at 2s. 3d., must see a very great and speedy improvement in market valuation. It is not long since the shares were 10s., but the position now is immeasurably better than it then was. *Mexican Eagle shares* have taken a jump to 35s., and the latest rumour was that the company would be bought up by the Standard Oil Trust on a basis of £2 per share, but there is no official confirmation of this yet.

Maikop Pipe-line subsidiaries are steadier now that a public issue has been avoided by the placing of a loan on what seem to be equitable terms, and the shares in the two chief producing companies have strengthened again, *Black Sea Oilfields Prefs.* to 1⅛ in anticipation of a maiden pref. distribution of 7 per cent., while further dividends from surplus earnings for both *Ordinary* and *Prefs.* are in sight. *Maiden Victory* are firm at ⅛-3⁄16 discount, now that the damage caused by the storm has been repaired. I retain my favourable opinion of these shares. The management of the *Maikop Premier* has been placed in the hands of the *Anglo-Maikop group*, and the shares are rising. *Premier Oil and Pipe Line*, after a temporary reaction, have firmed up again to 19s. 3d. and look like going better. A share paying quarterly dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, with such prospects of a further important increase in production, certainly should stand above "par." Not only does the company's new "Livia" well at Tustanowice promise to become a big producer, thus adding to the present output of 168,000 tons from the older producing wells, but the Perekinsko properties acquired by the *Premier* with wise foresight)) of 3,000 acres with prior rights and facilities for selection over 80,000 more bid fair, now that district is coming to the front, to become extremely valuable.

Tirucalli Rubber Concessions—Reason for the Rise.

A few months ago I referred to the valuable properties of the Tirucalli Rubber Concessions in Natal, which cover an area approximating 600 square miles in extent in the Tugela Valley, and chiefly along one side of the river. It is computed that there are some twenty million trees in these forests, varying from ten to 48 inches in diameter, and ready for tapping. Instead of crushing, it has been found by experience that tapping is distinctly preferable, and the natives who are now employed generally tap about 5 or 6 lbs. at a time from a tree, so that the tree, after all, can again be tapped the following year. There is a great advantage with these forests, as they are in easy reach of Durban for shipment to this country, so that the freight is very light. Labour is gradually increasing. In fact, the natives would much rather work in these forests than in

For Our Mammoth Football Competition—See Page iii. of Cover.

the mines. Shipments of the latex have now been made in larger quantities, as I foreshadowed, amounting at present to no less than 50,000 lbs. in December. When I wrote last the price was 5d. to 6d. per lb., but a most keen demand has been experienced, and the price is much higher now. The matter was quite puzzling at first, as the product was immediately snapped up and shipped to the Continent, but by careful enquiry it was discovered that the Germans realised its value. As I have already stated, it contains about 15 to 20 per cent. of rubber and 50 per cent. of resin. Instead of separating the two, the intelligent Teuton is using in its coagulated state this mixture which nature has provided, as it was discovered that it could be used for waterproofing garments, waterproofing paint and varnish, belting, etc., while for the purpose of manufacturing tyres, it is mixed with pure commercial rubber in the proportion of 1 lb. Tirucalli latex to 1 lb. of pure rubber. This, I understand, is particularly well adapted for the manufacture of tyres. No doubt a great many other uses will be discovered. In fact, it is similar to Niger flake and Accra paste, which are being imported for similar purposes, and the price of which is already from 10½d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. These two articles contain only 10-12 per cent. of rubber, and are objectionable, owing to their pestilential smell. When it is considered that the output of Guayule rubber is fast diminishing, owing to the fact that the trees have to be destroyed to obtain the latex, it stands to reason that Tirucalli will be all the more welcome. The output of Guayule in 1910 was 14,000 tons, and in 1911, 8,000 tons. The United States imported in 1910 nineteen million lbs., and in 1911 nine million lbs. There is every prospect of several thousand natives being at work in the near future, and the output is expected to rise to half a million lbs. per month. Tirucalli rubber, therefore, has a great future and will create a new and great industry. It is not surprising, under these circumstances, that the shares have come into strong demand, the preference shares being now quoted £1, but it is probable that the price will go much higher. The capital is only £35,150, divided into 100,000 preference shares of 5s. each, 40,000 ordinary shares of 5s. each, and 3,000 priority shares of 1s. each. After the preference shares have received 10 per cent. in any one year, the balance of the profit is to be equally divided between preference and ordinary shares.

DIAMOND PROPRIETARY MINES.—WILL IT BE A SECOND PREMIER?

The eighth annual report of the Premier Diamond Mine has appeared this week, and gives at a glance a vivid illustration of the great fortunes which can be made out of diamond shares. It is noticeable that the nominal capital is only £80,000, whereas the present market valuation is nearly five millions sterling. The original working capital was only £10,000, exactly the same as that of the Diamond Proprietary, the nominal capital of the latter being now £50,000. The similarity of present day conditions of the Diamond Proprietary to the early position of the Premier Diamond Company is such as to make one ask the question, "*Will it be a second Premier?*" Premier 2s. 6d. shares are about £10 per share. Diamond Proprietary 5s. shares are under 10s. I again say Diamond Proprietary shares offer an excellent opportunity for the small investor who is willing to take the ordinary risk of mining investments. The possibilities are immense, while the risk is small.

NEW ISSUE.

ANOTHER NEW CANADIAN PROMOTION.—Here is another company promoted in Canada and with the offices in Canada, with a capital of $1,550,000—the City Estates of Canada, Ltd., which seeks to place its preferred shares in this country. The company proposes to acquire from the Canadian Union Land Company, Ltd., of Ontario, Canada, the assets of other estate and land companies, and it is the Union Land Company—which has apparently an office in London at 3, London Wall Buildings—that receives the applications and is seemingly the promoting company. The estimates of the prospectus may, for all I know, be quite correct, but why is this business not offered through one of the well known London issuing houses of old standing, and is the Hendens Trust, Ltd., at 3, London Wall Buildings, who are to run the London agency, also an offshoot of the Union Land Company of Canada? Several profits are doubtless already piled up in the capital, and under all the circumstances I should not advise the investment.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

OIL FLOTATION.—G. R. B. (Hull).—If you will kindly give me some further particulars I will see how I can help you. This also applies to the coal property.

TRUST.—R. H. (Musselburgh).—It is no use asking my opinion after you have done the business. If you let me know what you paid for the various bonds I will tell you what I think of them.

LOAN SOCIETY.—RECAB.—No, there is no society or trust fund from which a young man in business can get a loan at a reasonable rate of interest. Unless you can borrow the money from friends, there is only the money lender to go to, and that I do not advise.

CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK.—BRUM.—I strongly advise you to have nothing to do with these people, nor is it at all a catch, for as you may have seen in JOHN BULL of last week, you can buy, for instance, Van den Berghs Ordinary shares—which have paid 17½ per cent. for the third year in succession, and will probably increase their dividends—at 47s. 6d., which gives upwards of 7½ per cent. per annum. If, therefore, you want to get a higher yield, you might put the money into that, and if you want a stockbroker for the purpose I will recommend you one.

BONDSMAN FOR FRIEND.—A. B. Y.—It is a great pity that you went surety for a man whom you thought your friend, and who has let you and your co-surety in. I do not see anything for you to do but to pay according to the County Court judgment, which, after all, is not for a large amount, if your co-surety will pay his share. If the Society proceeds to extremes they could certainly seize your furniture.

NEW YORK FINANCE COMPANY.—IMPERIAL.—How could you, merely on the representations of an agent, invest in a concern of which you know nothing at all? It looks exceedingly doubtful. The Company is not known here, and it is extraordinary that it should tout through an agent to place £5 bonds by instalments in the provinces of England. What does your agent say? You should certainly write to New York, and request the people to forward their prospectus or circular.

MINES: OILS.—G. W. W.—It is not worth while selling the oil shares Nos. 1 and 2 at the present rubbish prices, but you should not average until the improvement in the oil market becomes more permanent. There is not much hope for Jumbos (3), but Amal. Props (5) should come right as soon as the great Rhodesian amalgamation goes through. In connection with the latter, Rhodesia Consolidated (6) may also be expected to improve. No option but to hold Simmer Deep (4) and Vereeniging (7) for an improvement along with other Kaffirs.

A large number of replies are unavoidably held over.

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—C. A. B. (Sidmouth).—It is a thriftless policy, and we should be inclined to cut the loss by taking the paid-up policy for £7 10s.

CLERICAL MEDICAL AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—S. N. (Eastbourne).—We do not think you could go far wrong in taking out the policy to which you refer.

ANNUITY.—BIRMINGHAM (Barborne).—The Sun Life of Canada might serve for one, and the Scottish Widows for the other.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—W. H. S. (Shrewsbury).—Sue the Company in the County Court, if you can prove fraud. A. M. C. (Cardiff).—If the assured did not sign the proposal form for the 1908 policy you could recover in the County Court. The other policies are legal.

GENERAL ACCIDENT, FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—PUZZLED (London).—You say that you are insured against burglary, but that when you claimed for the loss of a burgled turkey the Company repudiated liability on the ground that the policy does not cover food. Without seeing the conditions endorsed on the policy, we must assume that the Company's interpretation of the clauses of the contract is correct, but we are not surprised at your statement.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.—W. S. (Leeds).—"Unforeseen, reduced circumstances" is beside the point. The Association was under certain obligations to you while you paid the premiums, but these obligations do not include the giving of a surrender value if you have not been paying premiums for five years. Whether it was prudent on your part to take out the bond is another matter.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—F. L. (Birmingham).—The premiums are recoverable. Consult a good local solicitor. C. B. (Lower Edmonton).—We do not advise proceedings. D. J. (Aberystwyth).—We fear you have no remedy. E. S. (Mansfield).—The premiums are recoverable if fraud could be proved. J. C. (Leigh).—You could recover. Consult a good local solicitor. L. P. (Streatham).—Get the head office of the Company to agree to pay you. H. D. (Grimsby).—Without further particulars we cannot advise. H. J. (Hereford).—Sue the Company in the County Court and prove the facts. H. P. (Bodmin).—Get the Company to endorse the policies in your favour. R. J. (Llwynypia).—Ditto. J. P. (Holloway).—Ditto. D. R. (Inverness).—The premiums could be recovered if the parties could attend and prove the facts in London. R. O. H. (Clapham Road).—The policies are in order. T. T. (Nottingham).—Get the Company to acknowledge your interest. J. McA. (Arbroath).—Write to the head office and get them to promise to pay at death. E. B. (Wandsworth Common).—You cannot recover if your mother signed the proposal. H. W. J.—We assume that the policy was taken out to cover funeral expenses, and unless it was, it is clearly illegal. A. H. M. (Wolverhampton).—Sue the Company in the local County Court and prove the facts.

It is requested that all letters sent us relating to the validity of policies held in the Prudential be marked on the envelope "Prudential." Owing to the thousands of enquiries which have been received, some little delay in dealing with them is unavoidable, but every endeavour is being made to expedite matters.

Something Special for Wife, Sister, and Daughter—See Page 125.

GLASGOW'S VINDICATION.

BY OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

[*Our Special Commissioner gives the reply of the police authorities to the allegation of apathy in the discharge of their duties contained in the Report of the Inspector of the Glasgow Parish Council, which detailed numerous cases of appalling immorality practised in the city—especially among young girls—and attributed this deplorable state of things to police laxity.*]

The Chief Constable, the Police Procurator-Fiscal, and the Town-Clerk Depute lost no time in answering the grave allegations of neglect of duty contained in the Report of the Inspector to the Glasgow Parish Council. In a long memorandum addressed to the Magistrates' Committee they energetically repel the accusations, pointing out the peculiar difficulty of their position in dealing with immorality, as "before now charges have been levelled at the police for being over-zealous and, indeed, harsh, in the execution of their duty," and, aptly enough, calling the attention of the Inspector to the fact that, when citing cases of terrible depravity, he has failed to distinguish between immorality that can be and is dealt with by the law, and immorality which the law does not and cannot reach, and which the police are, therefore, absolutely powerless to deal with. The police authorities say: "He entirely forgets or disregards the fact (however regrettable that fact may be) that immorality in itself is not an offence against the law. The police cannot deal with the clandestine prostitute, referred to by the Inspector, who does not openly importune on the streets, and the police cannot prosecute for brothel-keeping the woman who personally takes men to, or receives them in her own house, but does not keep other women, or at least one other woman, there for immoral purposes."

"IMMORALITY" NO LEGAL OFFENCE.

The answer to the Inspector's statement that the police are lax in dealing with the men who are in the habit of taking young girls to their offices for immoral purposes is that, however reprehensible such conduct may be, it is not recognised by the law as an offence.

The memorandum takes the gravest cases mentioned by the Inspector, and points out that in each instance the police had, before the charge of indifference to immorality had been made against them, taken whatever action was possible. In most cases this was not much, the limit of their powers usually being to warn young girls who were in danger of the probable result of their conduct if persisted in.

As to the most horrible of the cases cited—those of young girls (including one of 2 years of age, two of 3, one of 4, two of 5 and three of 6!) who had been admitted to hospital suffering from disgusting diseases, the defence of the police is either that the children's assailants have been convicted; that the victims could not, or would not, give information regarding the guilty parties, or that such information was entirely uncorroborated; that the complaints had been contracted from some infected relatives with whom they had been sleeping; that the matters had been reported to the Procurator-Fiscal, who had not seen his way to take up the cases, or that the offences had been committed beyond the City boundaries.

POLICE POWERS.

The police authorities fully recognise the evils which arise from the system of farming-out houses, but here again their powers are very limited, being practically confined to the enforcement of sanitary regulations. Where possible, prosecutions are entered for keeping disorderly houses, though the penalties inflicted by the magistrates are often in the nature of a fine, and not the term of imprisonment which the Inspector's report suggests is the invariable punishment.

The few points I have given above form part of what I consider to be a very able and conclusive reply to the Inspector's strong criticism, and I agree with the police authorities in regarding it as very unfortunate and regrettable that he should have drawn attention to what he erroneously considered defects in their work.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEWS.

BY WALTER MOORE.

MR. WARD.

[*In this column our contributor, Mr. Walter Moore, has an imaginary interview with some celebrity of the day.*]

Last week, when the Y.M.C.A. clocks stood at forty-thousand, three hundred and ninety-six pounds past twelve, it was borne in upon me that an interview with Mr. Ward, the American expert Voluntary Contribution Extractor, would be of interest. Therefore, I submitted to the call of duty and made my way to the Guildhall.

Arrived, I was instantly shown into the presence of the financial horologist.

"Good-day," he said. "Set down. What have you got?"

"I don't quite follow you," I replied, a little perplexed. "I have nothing to set down."

"Snakes!" cried Mr. Ward, "you darned Britishers don't seem to have got the hang of your own language. Set down—in that chair. Now, where's your dollars? I must ask you to look spry."

"I'm not here as a subscriber to your fund, if that is what you imagine," I said. "I have merely called for the purpose of interviewing you on behalf of JOHN BULL."

"That so?" commented Mr. Ward, elevating his eyebrows and visibly taking up a mentally defensive attitude. "You'd better start right in now then. I'm on the hustle, you bet, and haven't any loose time on my hands."

"Do you find that your Yankee methods for raising charitable subscriptions are as successful in London as you expected?"

"Nope,', replied Mr. Ward. "I can't say I do."

"Do you know why?" I asked.

"Sheer cussedness, I guess," responded Mr. Ward.

"You are right to a certain extent," I admitted. "We British people are not particularly keen on your American, machine-made methods when applied to such a purpose. We don't like to be rushed, and we don't like being rushed. The fact that you have been specially brought over from America to extract cash from the benevolent on so-called scientific lines has shut up many an otherwise open purse and cheque book."

"See here," interrupted Mr. Ward, "I'm not making a cent out of it myself. Understand that."

"So I am informed," I replied. "But that is not the point. One of the objects of your Association is to imbue young men with manliness and self-reliance."

"That's so," confirmed Mr. Ward.

"Well, some of us think that to erect a £100,000 building on tick and then employ an American expert to go round with the hat is a queer way of doing it. We think that no methods should be adopted for the furtherance of religious and social work unless the same methods could be applied in private and business life."

"We think the end justifies the means," remarked Mr. Ward.

"We don't," I retorted; "not while hundreds of homeless wretches have to sleep out on the Embankment at night, and search the dust boxes for breakfast in the morning. Not while most of our hospitals are tottering on the verge of insolvency. Not while——"

"See here," growled Mr. Ward, rising. "You are not agoin' to subscribe, I guess?"

"Not a red cent." I said emphatically.

"Then git!" shouted the expert.

I got.

Our £1,000 Football Prize nearly Won—150 Guineas Consolation Prizes awarded.—See Page 130.

HOW THE JAPANESE ALWAYS REMAIN SLENDER.

Prominent Scientist and Traveller Discovers Long-Sought Secret.

Finds Simple Home Treatment Works Wonders. Reduced His Weight 100 Pounds.

How to reduce Fat One Pound a Day, and then always Remain SLIM. No Drugs, Medicines, Starvation Diet, Exercising or Apparatus used.

Arrangements Now Made to have all Stout Readers of this Paper Receive a Free Copy of Dr. Turner's Wonderful Book, "How I Reduced My Weight 100 Pounds."

On returning from a recent trip, Dr. F. M. Turner, the physician, scientist, and traveller, who has won fame and world-wide renown through his writing and scientific researches, accorded an interview to Press representatives, who were astounded by his loss of more than 100 pounds of excessive fat since they last saw him. They found it difficult indeed to recognise in the slender, muscular, and perfectly proportioned form of Dr. Turner to-day the same man who only a few months ago they knew as a semi-invalid so enormously fat that he could hardly walk.

When questioned concerning his health and remarkable change in his appearance, Dr. Turner said that neither illness, medicines, starvation, dieting, nor strenuous exercise had caused him to lose his excess weight. In fact, he said that fatty degeneration had eaten into his vital organs to such an extent that it would have been foolhardy to even attempt the usual methods of reduction, and he was forced to seek other means of escape from his former terrible condition.

On being questioned further, the Doctor said:

"When I began to feel the stuffy, cramped feeling inside, which, as a physician, I recognised as the first tell-tale symptom of fatty degeneration, and when my heart pounded and throbbed at times so that it shook my whole body and seemed about to burst, I knew from these warnings that the end was approaching very rapidly, and even the examining physician of a large Life Insurance Company, when refusing point blank to accept me as a risk, told me I was likely to drop dead any minute.

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On sale at Boots', Timothy White's, Taylor's Drug Stores, Hodder's, Lewis and Burrows', and other leading Chemists.

Inexpensive though invaluable. Cures by night as well as by day. Far superior to Sprays, Douches, Inhalers, etc. Should your chemist not stock it he can easily get it for you.

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are the kind of men we want—men whose Special Knowledge or Special Aptitude fits them to occupy Responsible Positions in Technical, Clerical, Organising, or Travelling capacities We have upon our list hundreds of positions carrying salaries of from £150 to £1,000 a year—but positions which can only be filled by really High-Grade Men. If you are such a man, write us to-day—or call.

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GLASGOW'S VINDICATION.

BY OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

[*Our Special Commissioner gives the reply of the police authorities to the allegation of apathy in the discharge of their duties contained in the Report of the Inspector of the Glasgow Parish Council, which detailed numerous cases of appalling immorality practised in the city—especially among young girls—and attributed this deplorable state of things to police laxity.*]

The Chief Constable, the Police Procurator-Fiscal, and the Town-Clerk Depute lost no time in answering the grave allegations of neglect of duty contained in the Report of the Inspector to the Glasgow Parish Council. In a long memorandum addressed to the Magistrates' Committee they energetically repel the accusations, pointing out the peculiar difficulty of their position in dealing with immorality, as "before now charges have been levelled at the police for being over-zealous and, indeed, harsh, in the execution of their duty," and, aptly enough, calling the attention of the Inspector to the fact that, when citing cases of terrible depravity, he has failed to distinguish between immorality that can be and is dealt with by the law, and immorality which the law does not and cannot reach, and which the police are, therefore, absolutely powerless to deal with. The police authorities say: "He entirely forgets or disregards the fact (however regrettable that fact may be) that immorality in itself is not an offence against the law. The police cannot deal with the clandestine prostitute, referred to by the Inspector, who does not openly importune on the streets, and the police cannot prosecute for brothel-keeping the woman who personally takes men to, or receives them in her own house, but does not keep other women, or at least one other woman, there for immoral purposes."

"IMMORALITY" NO LEGAL OFFENCE.

The answer to the Inspector's statement that the police are lax in dealing with the men who are in the habit of taking young girls to their offices for immoral purposes is that, however reprehensible such conduct may be, it is not recognised by the law as an offence.

The memorandum takes the gravest cases mentioned by the Inspector, and points out that in each instance the police had, before the charge of indifference to immorality had been made against them, taken whatever action was possible. In most cases this was not much, the limit of their powers usually being to warn young girls who were in danger of the probable result of their conduct if persisted in.

As to the most horrible of the cases cited—those of young girls (including one of 2 years of age, two of 3, one of 4, two of 5 and three of 6!) who had been admitted to hospital suffering from disgusting diseases, the defence of the police is either that the children's assailants have been convicted; that the victims could not, or would not, give information regarding the guilty parties, or that such information was entirely uncorroborated; that the complaints had been contracted from some infected relatives with whom they had been sleeping; that the matters had been reported to the Procurator-Fiscal, who had not seen his way to take up the cases, or that the offences had been committed beyond the City boundaries.

POLICE POWERS.

The police authorities fully recognise the evils which arise from the system of farming-out houses, but here again their powers are very limited, being practically confined to the enforcement of sanitary regulations. Where possible, prosecutions are entered for keeping disorderly houses, though the penalties inflicted by the magistrates are often in the nature of a fine, and not the term of imprisonment which the Inspector's report suggests is the invariable punishment.

The few points I have given above form part of what I consider to be a very able and conclusive reply to the Inspector's strong criticism, and I agree with the police authorities in regarding it as very unfortunate and regrettable that he should have drawn attention to what he erroneously considered defects in their work.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEWS.

BY WALTER MOORE.

MR. WARD.

[*In this column our contributor, Mr. Walter Moore, has an imaginary interview with some celebrity of the day.*]

Last week, when the Y.M.C.A. clocks stood at forty-thousand, three hundred and ninety-six pounds past twelve, it was borne in upon me that an interview with Mr. Ward, the American expert Voluntary Contribution Extractor, would be of interest. Therefore, I submitted to the call of duty and made my way to the Guildhall.

Arrived, I was instantly shown into the presence of the financial horologist.

"Good-day," he said. "Set down. What have you got?"

"I don't quite follow you," I replied, a little perplexed. "I have nothing to set down."

"Snakes!" cried Mr. Ward, "you darned Britishers don't seem to have got the hang of your own language. Set down—in that chair. Now, where's your dollars? I must ask you to look spry."

"I'm not here as a subscriber to your fund, if that is what you imagine," I said. "I have merely called for the purpose of interviewing you on behalf of JOHN BULL."

"That so?" commented Mr. Ward, elevating his eyebrows and visibly taking up a mentally defensive attitude. "You'd better start right in now then. I'm on the hustle, you bet, and haven't any loose time on my hands."

"Do you find that your Yankee methods for raising charitable subscriptions are as successful in London as you expected?"

"Nope,', replied Mr. Ward. "I can't say I do."

"Do you know why?" I asked.

"Sheer cussedness, I guess," responded Mr. Ward.

"You are right to a certain extent," I admitted. "We British people are not particularly keen on your American, machine-made methods when applied to such a purpose. We don't like to be rushed, and we don't like being rushed. The fact that you have been specially brought over from America to extract cash from the benevolent on so-called scientific lines has shut up many an otherwise open purse and cheque book."

"See here," interrupted Mr. Ward, "I'm not making a cent out of it myself. Understand that."

"So I am informed," I replied. "But that is not the point. One of the objects of your Association is to imbue young men with manliness and self-reliance."

"That's so," confirmed Mr. Ward.

"Well, some of us think that to erect a £100,000 building on tick and then employ an American expert to go round with the hat is a queer way of doing it. We think that no methods should be adopted for the furtherance of religious and social work unless the same methods could be applied in private and business life."

"We think the end justifies the means," remarked Mr. Ward.

"We don't," I retorted; "not while hundreds of homeless wretches have to sleep out on the Embankment at night, and search the dust boxes for breakfast in the morning. Not while most of our hospitals are tottering on the verge of insolvency. Not while——"

"See here," growled Mr. Ward, rising. "You are not agoin' to subscribe, I guess?"

"Not a red cent." I said emphatically.

"Then git!" shouted the expert.

I got.

Our £1,000 Football Prize nearly Won—150 Guineas Consolation Prizes awarded.—See Page 130.

HOW THE JAPANESE ALWAYS REMAIN SLENDER.

Prominent Scientist and Traveller Discovers Long-Sought Secret.

Finds Simple Home Treatment Works Wonders. Reduced His Weight 100 Pounds.

How to reduce Fat One Pound a Day, and then always Remain SLIM. No Drugs, Medicines, Starvation Diet, Exercising or Apparatus used.

Arrangements Now Made to have all Stout Readers of this Paper Receive a Free Copy of Dr. Turner's Wonderful Book, "How I Reduced My Weight 100 Pounds."

On returning from a recent trip, Dr. F. M. Turner, the physician, scientist, and traveller, who has won fame and world-wide renown through his writing and scientific researches, accorded an interview to Press representatives, who were astounded by his loss of more than 100 pounds of excessive fat since they last saw him. They found it difficult indeed to recognise in the slender, muscular, and perfectly proportioned form of Dr. Turner to-day the same man who only a few months ago they knew as a semi-invalid so enormously fat that he could hardly walk.

When questioned concerning his health and remarkable change in his appearance, Dr. Turner said that neither illness, medicines, starvation, dieting, nor strenuous exercise had caused him to lose his excess weight. In fact, he said that fatty degeneration had eaten into his vital organs to such an extent that it would have been foolhardy to even attempt the usual methods of reduction, and he was forced to seek other means of escape from his former terrible condition.

On being questioned further, the Doctor said:

"When I began to feel the stuffy, cramped feeling inside, which, as a physician, I recognised as the first tell-tale symptom of fatty degeneration, and when my heart pounded and throbbed at times so that it shook my whole body and seemed about to burst, I knew from these warnings that the end was approaching very rapidly, and even the examining physician of a large Life Insurance Company, when refusing point blank to accept me as a risk, told me I was likely to drop dead any minute.

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CHARACTER DELINEATIONS.

BY OUR TAME PHRENOLOGIST.

[*We have engaged, at enormous expense, an eminent phrenologist—who is, withal, a deep student of current problems—to "feel the bumps" of prominent public men, for the benefit of our readers. How he manages to secure the "sittings" is his own secret.*]

MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, the Suffragists' Portia? Dear me! And what brings you here, madam?

Curiosity regarding your mental capacity? Anxious to know whether you have brains enough to use the parliamentary vote intelligently—when you get it! Come, come; let an old man have his joke.

Now, if you will please remove your charming hat, I shall be happy to examine your equally charming head. That's right. I am glad to find you dress your hair simply. I shall not disarrange it more than I can possibly help.

Re-markable! I assure you, madam, that if it were not for the feminine cast of your features I should be inclined to think you were a man in female attire. You have an essentially masculine head, excepting that I find a woful lack of the bump of *Amativeness* and *Philoprogenitiveness*. The absence of those organs suggests that you will remain a spinster. You intend to? . . . Quite so. Anyhow, we will wait and see. What? Ha, ha!

These two large bumps behind your ear, which are mercifully hidden by your abundant hair, are the seat of the organs of *Combativeness* and *Destructiveness*. In point of size there is hardly a pin to choose between them, *Destructiveness* having, perhaps, a slight advantage. This will explain your confusing straightforward fighting with wanton destruction in your agitation for the vote. It is a serious defect, which I venture to direct your particular attention to.

I find your organ of *Secretiveness* larger than is usually the case with women, which will account for your talent for organising pleasant little surprises for the police and others, such as concealing yourself or your followers in furniture vans, in House of Commons ventilators, chaining yourself to railings, and unfurling flags at inconvenient moments at political meetings.

You have a large bump of *Self-esteem*, but *Love of Approbation* makes no show at all. Perhaps a little of the latter would be to your advantage, by acting as a check upon you when you incline to indulge in outrageous conduct, under the mistaken idea of furthering your cause.

Neither *Cautiousness* nor *Veneration* finds a place amongst your faculties, but their absence is more than made up for by robust organs of *Benevolence*, *Firmness*, and *Hope*. The last is especially prominent. It need be, in view of the disappointment I can see looming ahead for you.

Amongst your Intellectual Faculties, *Time* appears to be the most pronounced. The fact of your having—er—done time would account for this.

Your eye indicates a ready flow of *Language*. Strange how often the eye—more especially a black eye—suggests strong language, is it not?

Well, good-day, my dear—if you think you have heard enough. Take an old man's advice, and endeavour to control that bump of *Destructiveness*, there's a good girl. Good-bye!

SPURIOUS SYMPOSIUMS.

SUPPOSITITIOUS REPLIES OF PROMINENT PEOPLE.

[*It is our custom to hold a weekly—imaginary—symposium upon some topic of the hour, giving the views of representative men.*]

AEROPLANE STABILITY.

Having read newspaper reports to the effect that devices for insuring the automatic stability of aeroplanes have been invented, we thought it time to ask certain celebrities their views on the whole question of aviation. Subjoined are a number of the replies we have received.

Mr. G. K. CHESTERTON writes:—

In my opinion aviation is simply flying in the face of Providence. I consider the present craze for flying is another proof of the fall of man. If I had my way I would hang all pilots to the nearest hangar, and have them pounded to death by wild propellors. I only weigh eighteen stone, but I would sooner go without my tankard of beer than trust myself on the most stable aeroplane ever constructed. One of the Wright brothers, who have invented some stability arrangement, is reported to have said that "Fools can fly now." My reply to that is, "Only fools do."

The Rev. F. B. MEYER looks at the question from another point of view. He says:—

I am not opposed to aviation so long as it is indulged in only by men. My fear is that the sport will become popular with ladies. In that case I shall have to start an agitation to ensure their wearing suitable clothing. The hum of an aeroplane naturally draws all eyes upward, and—well, their petticoats might get entangled in the machinery, you see, which would be shocking.

Miss MARIE CORELLI, as usual, raises the symposium to a high level. She writes:—

I regard the increasing popularity of aviation as another proof of the naturally aspiring character of the human soul. Impatient with the physical disabilities that keep them fettered to the earth, a few daring spirits have taken unto themselves wings, so that they may soar to the upper ether, the proper habitat of the soul. The aeroplane is a cumbersome machine for the purpose, but it is merely a makeshift that will serve mankind until humanity has acquired the spiritual powers that will enable it to spurn matter and move hither and thither throughout the universe at will. I enlarged on a similar subject in my immortal work, *The Romance of Two Worlds*, in which I propounded the electric theory, thereby explaining the New Testament miracles, including the walking on the sea, to my complete satisfaction.

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE says:—

I am strongly opposed to aviation and shall continue to be until I can think of some way of taxing the air and all aeroplanes. So far I have not been able to reach them.

Mr. H. G. WELLS (author of *The First Men in the Moon*) writes a characteristic letter. He says:—

Aviation and aviators make me smile. I cannot but laugh when I see our so-called scientists struggling to find out some way of overcoming the attraction of gravitation. As you must be aware, I have already solved that great problem, otherwise the first men in the moon would not have reached their destination. It is true that so far I have not put my theory into practice, but I have proved it to be practicable—on paper.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON, writing from Egypt, says:—

I am an opponent of the practice of aviation because it appears to me to militate against the production of large families. The majority of aviators are young, and most of them unmarried. Those who are married are liable at any moment to be dashed to pieces, and thereby rendered incapable of begetting many more children, whilst the unmarried aviators are not likely to find a girl foolish enough to marry a man who earns his living by constantly risking his life.

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ONE PENNY.

MRS. BULL'S Unique New Feature—See Page 125.

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20	11 0
50	1 8 0
100	2 5 0
200	4 10 0
500	11 5 0
1,000	22 10 0
2,000	45 0 0

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SPIRITUALISTIC SEANCES.

BY OUR SPIRITUALIST REPORTER.

[*We have added to our staff a Special Spiritualist Reporter, who each week will obtain and recount the opinions on questions of topical interest of some illustrious inhabitant of the astral plane.*]

DR. SAMUEL JOHNSON.

"We will try Johnson, to-day," I informed the medium.

"Wot! the black bruiser?" exclaimed the medium. "'Oo did 'im in? I ain't see'd nuthin' in the pipers."

"Pshaw!" I ejaculated. "*Dr.* Johnson, idiot. Got into the chair, you lump of congealed ignorance."

The next moment an angry voice issued from his lips.

"Sir, what is the meaning of this impertinence? I was promenading through the Elysian Fields—which, I may remark, are not to be compared with Fleet Street,—with my friend Boswell, when I was dragged with undignified precipitancy down to this dark and evil-smelling room and forced into this wretched man's body. Sir, how dare you?"

"Forgive me," I replied. "I was anxious to ask your opinion on one or two matters of interest, and could think of no better way of getting into communication with you."

"Sir!" roared Johnson, "you should have consulted my Dictionary or turned to the pages of my Biography. You will find every question under the sun dealt with authoritatively in those volumes."

"Pardon me," I said. "I think not. The world has advanced with giant strides since your time, and a hundred and one vital questions agitate the minds of the people—questions that you never dreamed of."

"Sir!" roared Johnson, "you are a fool! The world has *not* advanced since my time. It has gone back. Civilisation had reached its height when I dwelt upon earth, and when I died decay in morals, in religion, in art, and government immediately set in."

"I am afraid I must contradict you," I said.

"Sir!" shouted the Doctor, "you may contradict till you are black in the face. The facts are as I state, and that ends the matter."

"Dogmatic assertions are not accepted with meekness nowadays," I retorted. "No man's prestige is so great in these democratic times that his words are swallowed without criticism."

"Sir, so much the worse," growled Johnson. "Democracy is the fetish of fools. It is a many-headed monster, with no more brains than the most ignorant of the individuals who go to make up the mass."

"Hush!" I cried, startled by such reactionary words.

"Sir!" roared Johnson louder than ever, "I allow no man to hush me! The beginning of the downfall of Britain, whereof signs abound, dates from the dawn of democratic ideas. The combined, accumulated ignorance of fools does not make wisdom. Each time you extend the franchise you are simply casting the political net wider to catch more gudgeons."

"But——" I protested.

"Sir, but me no buts," shouted Johnson. "I will not permit my facts to be disputed."

"'Ere, somethinks giv' me a sore throat," grumbled the medium, returning suddenly to consciousness.

ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

BY W. M.

[*In this column we give from week to week an anticipatory—always good-humoured—Epitaph of some celebrity of the day. We need scarcely say we hope it will be many years before his relatives will have to consider seriously our suggestion.*]

Thys
Stayned glafs window
Was ereckted
By
Ye Orangemenne of Ulster
To perpetuate ye memorie
Of

Ye Right Honourable Sir Edward Carson,

Knight;
P.C.; LL.D. (hon. causa):
Sometyme
Member of Parliamente for
Dublin Univerfitie.
Born
Anno Domini 1854,
Ye sonne of hys father,
Hee was educated atte Portarlington
And
Trinitie College, Dublin,
Where hee difcloſed soe greate a talent for
Browbeatynge hys contemporaries
And
Circumventynge ye College rules
Thatte
It was decyded
To make a lawyer of hym.
Havynge made a solemn pilgrymage to
Ye Blarney Stone,
Ye whyche hee kifsed wyth greate unction,
He leaped uppe ye legal ladder,
And became,
Anno Domini 1892,
Solicitor-General for Ireland.
Hee next invaded England,
Where hee roſe wyth equal velocitie
To ye proud poſicion
Of
Solicitor-General,
Anno Domini 1900.
Meanwhyles
He hadde entered Parliamente
As a Confervative,
And when Home Rule for Ireland
Appeared imminent
Hee hurried acroſs to Belfaſt
To mobiliſe ye Orangemenne
And organize armed reſiſtance.
Breathynge fyre and slaughter,
He strucke diſmay into ye heartes of
Ye Liberal Partie,
Whoo,
Wedged between John Redmond and
Ye deceaſed,
Knowe notte where to look for succour.
However,
Notwythſtandynge ye reſiſtance of ye
Orangemenne,
Ye Home Rule Bill was paſsed,
Whereupon occurred ye hiſtorick
March of ye Orangemenne to Cork,
Ye objeckt of whych no one hath been able to diſcover
To thys day.
Havynge ledde hys menne thus far,
Ye deceaſed, lyke ye brave old Duke of York, led them
Back again, and,
Serene in ye knowledge thatte hee hadde done hys dutie,
He lay hym downe,
And gave uppe ye ghoste.

"MRS. BULL."

EVERY TUESDAY. PRICE ONE PENNY.

For Our Mammoth Football Competition—See Page iii. of Cover.

RUPTURE CURED IN 30 DAYS

THE WONDERFUL RECORD OF A WELL-KNOWN SPECIALIST.

Thousands freed from Truss Bondage.

One of the many Cures.

They speak for themselves.

Mr. C. E. COWLEY, 45, PARKLANDS ROAD, HASSOCKS, SUSSEX, says:—"After one month's use of the Rice Method, I was enabled to re-enlist in the Army for a period of two years (having previously been rejected for further service after completing 12½ years and undergoing an operation). During my last two years' service I partook of such forms of recreation as cricket, football, and hockey, all of which require men to be in good sound condition. I have never experienced any inconvenience from the rupture since I used the Rice Method which I recommend to all."

The most sceptical must now admit that Rupture can be absolutely and completely cured without operation or pain. The long list of cures accomplished by the remarkable method discovered by the well-known Rupture Specialist, W. S. Rice, are irrefutable proofs of this. Scores and scores of men, women and children owe their complete restoration to health to this important discovery. Relieved from the galling bondage of the truss they are now able to enjoy all the ordinary pursuits and pleasures of life in a way that was beyond the wildest dreams of many of them. You can imagine the delight of sufferers, who have been told by doctors that they were incurable, when they were restored to perfect health. You can understand the gratitude of those who anticipated spending the rest of their lives in comparative misery, when, after being told about, and trying the W. S. Rice Method, they found themselves well and strong again.

If it would interest you to see copies of some of the letters received from these people, we shall be very pleased to send them to you.

There are many firms and individuals who claim that they have invented devices which will cure Rupture, but it has been left to W. S. Rice to prove to the world that Rupture absolutely can be cured.

Frequently people are cured by the W. S. Rice Method who have tried every advertised device and remedy without beneficial effect, consequently the conclusion to be arrived at is obvious.

If you are ruptured and would like us to tell you abou this remarkable discovery, and how you can cure yourself at home without operation or abstention from work and in perfect comfort, we shall be only too happy to do so. We do not ask you to send a single penny in return; this information is given to you for nothing, if you need it, besides which we send you a "test" free. Many years of hard and continuous work had to be devoted to the cure of Rupture before W. S. Rice made his important discovery, which has revolutionised the treatment of this trouble. You and every Rupture sufferer can now benefit by it simply by writing for free particulars.

Send no money, only fill in the Coupon hereunder, post to the address thereon, and what you need will be sent you by return of post.

COUPON (A 431).

Cut out and post to **WM. S. RICE, Ltd., 8 & 9, Stonecutter Street, London, E.C.**

Time Ruptured?.....*Age?*.....

Right, left, or both sides, or navel? .....

Name .....

Address.....

.....

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The NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.), 92, 93, & 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.

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Louis design mahogany bedroom suite, 28 guineas; 6 ft. walnut bedroom suite, 40 guineas; 7 ft. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, with bow front to wardrobe, 60 guineas; 7 ft. satinwood bedroom suite, 10 guineas; several inlaid chests from 50s.; 6 ft. walnut wardrobe, 15 guineas; 6 ft. 6 in. mahogany wardrobe, fitted drawers and trays, 12 guineas; several iron bedsteads from 9s.; black and brass bedsteads, 10s.; full-size black and brass bedsteads, with wire springs, 21s.; 9 oak bedsteads, 15s.; pair brass twin bedsteads, 5 guineas; pair white and brass twin bedsteads, 3 guineas; inlaid Sheraton bedstead, including wire spring mattress, £3 15s.; full size all brass bedstead, 60s.; pair mahogany twin bedsteads, £2 19s. 6d.; full-size all brass square tube Italian bedstead, 8 guineas; and several others up to 18 guineas. 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The DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE comprises very fine drawing-room suite, upholstered in art tapestry, £3 10s.; another design suite, £6 10s.; satinwood finish drawing-room suite, 7 guineas; an elegant design Louis XIV. gilt drawing-room suite, £19 10s.; another set, similar design, 14 guineas; Chesterfield drawing-room suite with 2 large lounge easy chairs, and 4 solid mahogany chairs, most exquisite design, £12 19s. 6d.; large size double sprung Chesterfield and 2 large easy chairs to match, covered in silk tapestry, 22 guineas; set of Dutch Marqueterie chairs, 14 guineas; handsome design Vernis Marten cabinet, 16 guineas; another, 12 guineas Buhl cabinet, 11 guineas; another, 14 guineas; table *en suite*, 8 guineas; Chesterfields from £3 10s. to 10 guineas; Chippendale design cabinet, £2 19s. 6d.; similar one, £5 15s.; Sheraton design cabinet, £3 15s.; Sheraton-design specimen table, 50s.; occasional tables from 12s. 6d.; occasional chairs, 50 in stock, from 6s. 6d.; 2 white enamel overmantels, 18s. 6d. and 27s. 6d.; oval gilt table, 10 guineas; pair 9-light candelbra, 6 guineas, 5-light candelbra, 10 guineas; clock in ormolu case, £8 15s. piano, 8 guineas; an upright piano, iron frame, £12 15s.; ditto by Carl Strauss 20 guineas; and several others in stock up to 40 guineas; grand pianos by Steinway, Bechstein, Blüthner, &c. Large stock of carpets, Tapestry, Mirzapore, Turkey and Oriental carpets and rugs to match, from 18s. 6d.; a large variety of Axminster and Wilton carpets, always in stock from £2 15s. HALL FURNITURE: Hall stands from 20s.; hall cupboard, 3 guineas, large quantity of electro-plate, china, cutlery, kitchen utensils, curtains, bed and table linen, &c.

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Country buyers should call and inspect these goods. All goods Town or Country free of charge, or can remain stored 12 months free of charge. All goods can be seen where they are now lying for the convenience of sale, any day from 9 till 9, except Saturday, when we close at 7 o'clock, at

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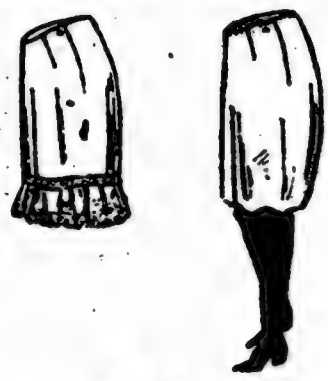

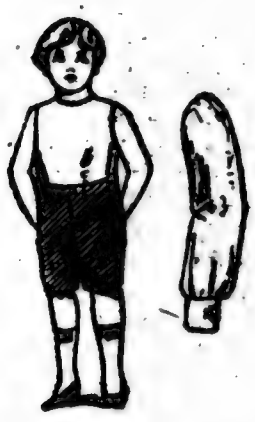

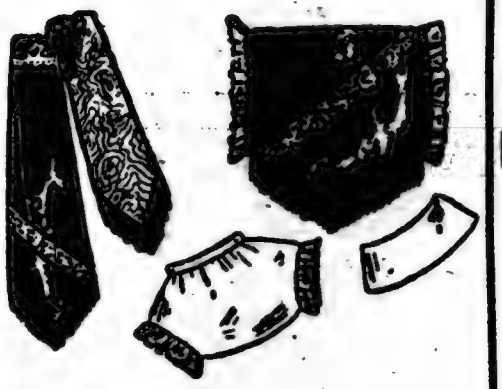

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ON SALE TUESDAY, JAN. 30. (DATED FEB. 3.) PLACE AN ORDER NOW.

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

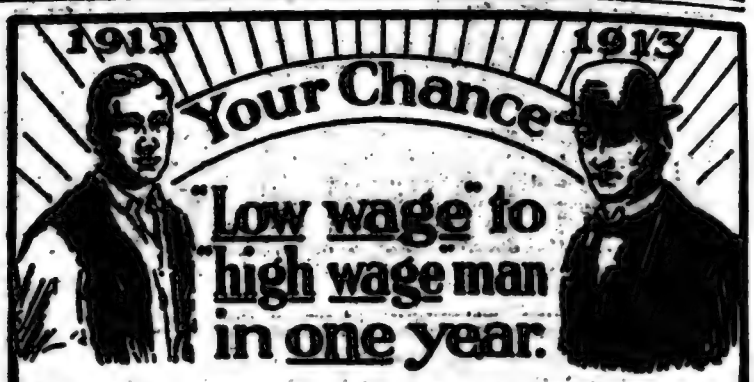
By M. Clement Scott.

"Œdipus Rex."

There is one grave fault which Professor Reinhardt has made with regard to the production at Covent Garden of the Grecian play by Sophocles called "Œdipus Rex." He has forgotten that, although Greek plays were produced outside the temples and in the open air of Greece, the garb of the players was in keeping with that of the people. Mingling at Covent Garden with our modern sightseers dressed in evening clothes and Parisian costumes, the drapery of the classical Theban century clashes strangely and creates an altogether wrong impression. Herr Reinhardt could easily have avoided this by doing away entirely with the stalls which he had allowed to remain in the well of the Opera House. All the illusion is gone to the lookers-on who are sitting level with the actors, and I can well imagine that to them the representation of "Œdipus Rex" must appear false and unnecessary. It was for this very reason that I craved the indulgence of Mr. Frank O'Neil and begged that my seats downstairs might be transferred to the upper part of the house, but even then those two solid masses of English-clad figures interfered with the grandness, the majesty and the beauty of Max Reinhardt's magnificently designed production. "Œdipe Roi" as it is called in French, is one of the tragedies belonging to the Comédie Française repertoire, but as acted there, and if I mistake not at Drury Lane here, it cannot be compared to the present dignified and glorious rendering by Martin Harvey in place of Mounet Sully, the Frenchman who so frequently lost control of his voice and shouted until he almost deafened you. In this country it was impossible to present the tragedy "in the open." Therefore Herr Reinhardt has ingeniously contrived to turn what was the stage of the Royal Opera House into the outside of a Grecian palace with Corinthian columns which belong also to temples. Steps lead up to this stately edifice whereon the principal characters act this wild drama of murder, of mystery, of horror, and of agony. There is no falling of the curtain after separate acts, there is no orchestra to "make music" but there are eerie sounds as of wailing in the distance, sad cries that penetrate the auditorium from heaven knows where, significant whisperings in all the air which seem to strike a fearsome feeling. Mr. Martin Harvey's superb elocutionary powers have never before been put to a more severe test, and he rises breast high to the occasion. The scene with his two baby children, his heartrending farewell to them, and then with his sight gone, refusing aid, his fall from the palace steps and blind staggering forth into space—into the blackness of the night—must be seen to be understood. The Jocasta of Miss Lillah McCarthy is not so great in its inspiration, but it will serve. It is a treat indeed to hear words spoken as they are at Covent Garden. But the "tragedy in brief" translated by Gilbert Murray, and adapted with so much skill by the one-time Oxford don, W. L. Courtney, must be gazed at from *above* the arena, and not *on* it. To those who have already seen it from the stalls, I say, go and see it again from the first circle; the difference will soon be recognised.

Henry Labouchere.

Alas! another friend has drifted "across the bar"! What an extraordinary man "Labby" was to be sure. He was everything in his time, once owning the old Queen's Theatre.



Resolve now to be a "high-wage" man at the end of 1912. More—BE ONE. Get the I.C.S. home-study training that last year brought promotion to over 4,000 ambitious workers. Be like the one who wrote:

"Since enrolling with your schools I have risen from Shop Labourer to Shop Foreman, and my salary has increased by over 200%."
(Signed) Herbert J. Jones, Masterton, N.Z.

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Please explain, without any obligation on my part, how I can qualify to enter, or to obtain a larger salary in, the occupation or profession before which I have marked X (or in the one stated here.....)

_Engineering (*state which*)	_Applied Art	_Motor	_Aviation
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LITTLE THEATRE, John Street, Adelphi. Proprietress, Miss Gertrude Kingston. Mr. CHARLES KENYON'S SEASON, MONDAY, January 29th, at 8.30.

"THE BLINDNESS OF VIRTUE."

A New Play in Four Acts by Cosmo Hamilton. Box Office 10-5. 'Phone 2947 City.

DUNVILLE'S V R WHISKY

May be obtained from all Wine and Spirit Merchants.

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Write direct for name of nearest retailer to

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BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—
Must the result of the German election be "taken as red"?
Do the cotton operatives really prefer the "union"?
Does Italy rightly understand "French leave"?
Isn't the miner's a "minimum" wage already?
Shouldn't it be called the Grand-Mother of Parliaments now?
Wasn't the new French Cabinet rather hastily put together?
Isn't the Palace Theatre a "one-knight show"?
Has Mr. Hammerstein encountered the wrong kind of "draught"?
Is the Camberwell Borough Council "past praying for"?
Wouldn't a "corner" in butter mean a horrid "scrape"?
Is Bloemhof, the new diamond field, pronounced "Bloom off"?
Are music-halls to be "musical theatres" because they may now have "banned parts"?

It is but meet the M.C.C. should win the rubber, seeing that they have provided the Hearne for the ashes.

The winner of a smoking competition kept an ordinary cigarette alight for over an hour. What a fag!

A veterinary surgeon at Wanstead has succeeded in drilling the jaw of a pony. We must introduce him to the House.

The wife of a Hastings workman has received the King's bounty. It is, of course, the place for triplets.

"Plaintiff on a crutch," we read. But *The Lay Lawyer* is coming.

Heading: "Mountain Slipping Away." Going into a flat, perhaps.

The mystery concerning the deaths of the tramps in Berlin seems to be solved. Their lives were Schnapp-ed off.

We read of a model house built of apples. It doubtless looks well towards eve.

A woman asked for a summons at Tottenham because her husband was "poetical with another woman." Yet she is evidently a-verse from it.

An omnibus war is coming, we are told. Will the General be hit?

Although a policeman had cayenne pepper thrown in his eyes at Stroud, he declares he was assaulted.

Judge Edge has retired. But the sword of Justice will be just as keen with the Edge off.

Three thousand pounds in notes was found in the wooden leg of a man who died in an almshouse. Death made him stump up.

"Shot by armed burglar," we read. He couldn't very well shoot unarmed.

In spite of the green Christmas it was a black frost to many.

"More Courting Wanted," says a placard. But there will be less when the *Lay Lawyer* appears.

A recent *Globe* placard read: "Coal goes up—Bottomley in the Box." He evidently had a hot time.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

THE LONDON OPERA (U.S.A.)

[*Mr. Oscar Hammerstein confesses that, unless he is supported in the future by a generous subscription list, he will be unable to undertake an opera season this summer.*]

When told his scheme would never pay,
He voted it a crammer;
Let's hope that Mr. Hammerstein
May yet escape the hammer.

THE RIDDLED HEART.

[*At a recent inquest a doctor stated that a man had lived for years with two holes in his heart, one the size of a two-shilling piece and the other the size of a shilling.*]

Dear us, that's nothing! In our heart
The girls make many holes immense;
The last girl, when we had to part,
Left one as big as eighteen-pence!

RICARDO.

An attractive competition is now running in connection with Muratti's Neb-ka Cigarettes. The competitors are required to send in some short phrase which will adequately describe the cigarettes, or that may be used as a catch phrase in the advertisements later. To invent such a phrase needs not the brain of a scholar. The famous idea of Sunny Jim, for instance, is credited to a little girl, and some short, catchy sentences applicable to Neb-ka Cigarettes may strike anyone and be worth anything up to fifty guineas. Full particulars will be found on page 111.

Annuities and Their Uses.

SOME INTERESTING EXAMPLES—INCOMES INCREASED FOURFOLD.

Although a good deal has been written of late about Annuities, there is still a great lack of information on the part of many regarding this very convenient and useful form of investment. For example, Annuities are associated in the minds of most people with old age, and while many are ready to admit that a purchase of an Annuity is a very excellent thing in the evening of life, it occurs to comparatively few that the easiest way to secure a good Annuity for one's declining years is to begin earlier in life by paying the purchase money in comparatively small annual instalments.

MANY CONTINGENCIES.

The contingencies that may be provided for by Annuities and the methods of making these provisions are almost innumerable, and yet are very simple and easily understood.

Example, a retired solicitor with impaired health, aged 74, deposits £6,000, and receives an Annuity of £1,000 payable for life, thus increasing his income fourfold.

Three sisters, aged 62, 69, and 72, deposit £1,500, and receive a joint Annuity of £135, payable half-yearly until the death of the last survivor.

A husband, aged 75, and wife, 70, whose total worldly possessions amount to £2,000, on which they were realising £80 per annum, invested the whole in an Annuity, realising at once a joint income of £239, paid half-yearly during their joint lives, to be reduced to £179 after the death of the first.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.

A gentleman of 54, with a delicate wife, aged 49, and no children, buys an Annuity of £800 a year costing £10,100. The Company guarantees that even if he should die to-morrow the payments will be continued for ten years. In order that the wife shall absolutely be provided for if she is still alive at the end of ten years, she has the privilege of paying another £1,500 and having the £800 yearly continued throughout the remainder of life.

SAVING UP FOR A RAINY DAY.

All of these examples refer to immediate Annuities. We will now give examples of deferred Annuities:—

A young man, 26, by depositing £13 2s. yearly, secures an income of £100 a year, beginning at 60.

A nurse, aged 30, pays £10 5s. yearly, and secures an Old Age Penson of £50, beginning at 60.

Prince A, aged 31, deposited £6,814 for a deferred Annuity of £600 per annum, to begin at age 41.

WIFE AND CHILDREN.

The foregoing examples provide for the purchaser only. Here are a few providing for the wife and children or for parents:—

A. J., aged 25, secures £100 a year for his mother, aged 65, should she survive him, at the small annual cost of £7 8s.

J. F., aged 36, wife 34, having two children, secures an income of £200 a year for his wife should she survive him. So that the children may not be left unprovided for should the wife also die, the Company guarantees to keep up the Annuity until at least 20 annual instalments have been paid. The youngest child will, therefore, be of age before the payments have ceased, while, on the other hand, they never cease during the life's life, though she may attain a very advanced age. The annual cost in this case is £78 12s., which, it must be admitted, seems a very moderate sum for such an ample provision.

EDUCATIONAL ANNUITIES.

What are known as Educational Annuities for Children interest almost every parent. Here is an example:—

G. H. J., aged 27, has a baby boy and another son aged two. He foresees that when they reach 15 their education will be getting expensive. He secures a five-year Annuity of £100 for each, beginning at 15 and continuing until 19. For the first he pays 15 annual instalments of £28 4s. each, and for the second 13 instalments of £32 18s. In the event of the father's death no further instalments will be required, and the Annuities will be paid just as if he had lived. Moreover, the Company will at once begin to pay £32 19s. yearly to assist in the elementary education of the boys until they reach 15, when the Annuities of £100 to each begin.

These examples illustrate only a few of the contingencies of life that may be provided for more conveniently and more safely by Annuities than in any other manner. They are all taken from the records of one of the strongest financial institutions in the British Empire, the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, whose head office for the United Kingdom is 45, Canada House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C. Inquirers should mention their age, and give some idea of the nature of the provision they wish to make.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag,"* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

WILL the correspondent who recently wrote in reference to a case of outrage at Manchester send us full name and address?

"HARD LUCK" (Bowdon) informs us that he won £40 in a *Football Chat* (Bale, Switzerland) competition, and can't get the money. He appears to have chosen a very suitable *nom de plume*.

"ONE OF THE UNGODLY" (Bristol) assures us that he recently hurled half a brick through a newspaper office window. We do not believe in the hurling of half bricks. There is always the chance of their breaking something.

M. H. (Fulham) informs us that the girls engaged in a certain provincial pantomime have been ordered to appear "without trunks to their tights, and to give the boys in front the Glad Eye." What *are* trunks? And what *is* the Glad Eye? And where is the Rev. F. B. Meyer?

"A READER OF HUMAN NATURE" (Harlesden) is kind enough to say he drinks his mild and bitter to our success in 1912. We join him in spirit.

C. L. (Cardiff) complains that the following sentence from the *Western Mail* is ungrammatical:—"During his first day's shoot at Nepal the King killed three tigers and three rhinoceroses." He says the last word should be "rhinoceri." But no matter; what are called rhinoce*roses* by any other name would smell as sweet.

G. W. (Streatham) asks us what we think of the following *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle* poster of December 30th:

The Theatrical Profession.
Is it overcrowded
by Seymour Hicks.

He *is* a big man.

H. W. R. (Finchley), a young schoolmaster with a London degree, but out of employment, asks "Why should it be impossible to find work, when any sort of work would be welcome?" It is a puzzle. Booming trade and increasing unemployment are a queer combination, which only a Business Government will be able to sort out.

J. W. (Trehafod) writes complaining that the bread in his district is too cheap and the pork too dear. A good job it isn't the other way about.

"GROCER" (Willesden).—We have never before heard of the Universal Debt Recovery Company, of Aldersgate Chambers, 9, Goswell Road, but the name is sufficiently awe-inspiring to scare the most determined debtor.

O. D. (Woodbridge) informs us that Lewis Lewis, or the Capital and Provincial Investment Agency, of 26, Charles Street, St. James's, S.W., have not settled a racing account owing since last November. We should like to know why.

"ESSEX" (Brentwood).—We have not the faintest idea whether or no all the Metropolitan police are to receive Coronation medals. Indeed, the system on which medals are distributed by the authorities is one of the mysteries we expect never to solve.

F. E. H. (Wandsworth Common) sends us a cryptogram, and suggests that we shall amuse ourselves by deciphering it. Some people have a queer idea of amusement. It is as much as we can do to decipher some of our ordinary correspondence, without looking for further trouble.

G. D. BERRY AND MANY OTHERS.—Please read the paragraph at the head of this page, saying that "all matter submitted *must be original* unless otherwise stated." We are quite tired of receiving our old friend, "Money, O Money, Thy Praises I Sing"—he had grown whiskers somewhere about the period of the decease of Her late Majesty Queen Anne.

R. I. K. (Port Talbot).—Finding a "true bill" means that the Grand Jury consider that there is evidence to go to a petty jury for trial. It is, as a rule, a mere formality, and is of no real weight.

"AUTO-KNITTER" (Essex).—See reply to "One in Doubt" in *Mrs. Bull's* "Letter Bag," January 13th.

F. R. T. (Aston).—We said all cyphers could be solved, not that we could solve all cyphers. We are too busy to attend to yours at the moment.

H. B. (Weybridge).—You can obtain a copy of the Insurance Act from Wyman and Son, Fetter Lane, E.C. We have heard of several books that profess to explain it, but we have never yet seen one that does. Better study our articles.

"A READER" informs us that "Wras sindu cmfwyp ffix" is excellent Welsh and means "look out for squalls." In our opinion the warning is worse than the worst squall.

X. Y. Z. (Portsmouth).—Judging from the way the Naval Prize Bill was thrown out, the House of Lords still has much power. You are quite right; the disestablishment of the Church of England means placing it on the same footing as the nonconformist bodies.

"SHIRRAN" (Scotland) is very cross because one of our contributors recently stated that this year is 1916 and not 1912. We suspect "Shirran" is a lady who is horrified to discover that she is four years older than she thought.

C. R. (Warrington).—Our contributor may have confused F. F. Buckland with his father, W. Buckland, born 1784, who in all probability in his boyhood knew John Hunter.

J. C. C. (Whitehall Place, S.W.).—No doubt full details of the cost of raising the £100,000 to clear off the debt on the new Y.M.C.A. building will be published in due course. If not, we shall have to make a few enquiries.

P. M. (Bally-*something*) asks what relation "the present Home Secrtly is to the Clerk of the Peace for this contey apointed last week. Yours thruly." Which county is it, at all, at all, and phwat is the name of the Clerk of the Peace of the same? 'Tis answer the question we can't widout this information.

A. S. (Manchester).—The competitions run by the London Fine Art Co., of 89, Cornwallis Road, London, N., are simply schemes to dispose of flash jewellery at a high price.

"A READER" (Portslade) accuses us of printing "flaming words" on our placards regarding the German menace, and admonishes us to speak peace and goodwill towards our neighbours. We have nothing against the German *people*. It is the militant and autocratic William whom we are up against. When the Germans obtain constitutional government half the danger of European war will be removed—although even then room must be found for German expansion, and the question is—where are the people to be put? *We* have no room for them, you know.

H. A. (Upper Holloway) tells us that Deputy Jur'g Templer, upon whose methods we commented recently, spent a lot of his time in Cyprus, and assumes that the climate may have possibly affected his temper. Very likely.

W. W. (Yorkshire).—Take no notice of what the insurance agents say about us, unless they are prepared to commit their statements to writing—and take the consequences.

W. H. AND F. M. (Newport) send us some gruesome details, showing how Chinese pork is "packed in square bales with sacking around and sewn up and well saturated with preservative with a high smell, similar to tarred rope, and addressed to various sausage manufacturers." What are meat inspectors doing?

W. M. (Brighton) AND OTHERS.—For forms to apply for posts under the Insurance Act you should write to the Secretary to the National Insurance Commissioners, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.

"ONLY A SUPER." complains bitterly of the treatment received at the Opera House, Covent Garden, in connection with the production of "Œdipus Rex," and if what he says be correct his complaint is well founded.

A. T. (Hythe) writes in high praise of the considerate treatment he has received at the hands of the Hackney Furnishing Co. In these days, when so many complaints about the hire system are rife, it is refreshing to hear testimony to the methods of the leading houses.

H. K. (Bootle) wants to know whether, under the Insurance Act, it will be compulsory for him to pass the doctor before he joins a Goose Club next Christmas. The answer is in the negative, but there would be no harm in having the goose medically examined.

E. B. (Southampton).—It is very naughty of the Southampton Hippodrome to advertise "no early doors" on their bills, and then to charge 6d. extra for early admission to the pit. It is time such horrid deceptions were unmasked.

A. W. F. (Hammersmith) complains that the Metropolitan Railway do not allow passengers holding workmen's tickets to use their return halves before 12 noon, whereas the Tubes impose no such restriction. We quite see that the regulation in question may cause great inconvenience, if not positive hardship, to workmen knocking off early in the day for some cause or other. If the Tubes can dispense with it, surely the Met. can also.

Miss A. B. (London, Ont.) suggests that "hundreds of the starving female hawkers in London streets could be sent out there and learned (*sic*) to do housework at good wages." How easy it is to make such suggestions, and how difficult to put them into effect! From what we know of Canada, the "starving female hawkers" would be promptly shipped back to England as undesirable immigrants.

A. H. (Cleethorpes) sends us a specimen of a very curious creature, called by the fishermen a "sea monkey." It certainly justifies the name, and would prove a very attractive novelty in a tradesman's window. "A. H." is but a steward on a trawler, and would much appreciate orders for these strange denizens of the deep. We should be pleased to forward any letters for him which may be sent to our care.

C. G. L. (Hyères).—The communication to which you refer either never reached us or was thought of insufficient general interest for publication. By the way, the 7d. you say you enclosed apparently dropped out of the envelope!

"SAM" (Houghton) would be very thankful for a letter of recommendation for a London Cancer Hospital. He has gone under two operations, but is no better. He is a smith by trade, earning 35s. a week, with a wife and five children. He has been offered his fare if he can obtain admission, and any reader who is in a position to afford him this facility would be doing a very kind action.

A. D. (St. George's-in-the-East) wants us to give a "Biscuit" to a local paper for stating that a man was fined 30s. for assaulting a tram conductor on the East Ham Railways. But the sentence may be quite correct. The tram conductor may have been travelling as a passenger upon an ordinary railway, and, secondly, a technical name for tramways is "light railways."

R. L. (Southall).—Have nothing to do with *any* "legal aid" society. Almost invariably they are merely touts for shady solicitors.

R. J. (Upton Park).—We do not undertake to value pictures, as you will see stated at the head of this page.

[We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.]

Something Special for Wife, Sister, and Daughter—See Page 125.

BRAININE

The Great Energiser

—the only cure for Brain Fag, "Nerves" and Sleeplessness.

A preparation that supersedes all nerve tonics, and guaranteed free from strychnine or any other poisonous drugs.

Weigh your nerves in the balance and they will NOT be found wanting after BRAININE.

BRAININE—Little pellets which are swiftly, surely, and permanently curing many thousands of distressing nervous complaints.

BRAININE is perhaps the most wonderfully effective preparation for the alleviation and cure of nervous complaints which has ever come before the public, and is quite distinct and far in advance of any of the so-called remedies which have previously been placed upon the market. Its unique success even in the most acute nervous cases may be largely attributed to the fact that its function is to build up and revitalise the brain tissues which so actively govern the whole nervous system.

The Brain—the great nerve junction—How Brainine clears and builds it up into a healthy and vigorous state—a state reflected on every nerve in the body.

BRAININE is in itself a brain tonic and perfect brain food—it speedily clears the brain cells of any poisonous waste matters which are so seriously retarding its healthy activity, replacing new, clean, and sound tissues; and in this way putting the whole brain mechanism in perfect working order, rendering it abnormally sound and healthy. . . . It has been found that the whole nervous system immediately benefits in quite an extraordinary manner—new life and vigour being imparted to every nerve.

BRAININE, acting *via* the brain, has triumphed; it has killed the trouble at the root.

A very small quantity of BRAININE will completely rejuvenate your nerves—its tonic properties are without doubt quite unique, and eminent physicians, after the most careful and practical tests, have asserted that it is so far the only preparation which has successfully solved the nerve question.

If you are a sufferer from Brain-fag, Worry, Sleeplessness, Nervous Excitement, Irritability, Physical Lassitude and other nervous complaints, you will find in Brainine a sure, swift, and permanent cure.

Every nerve sufferer is urged to make a careful trial of BRAININE without one moment's unnecessary delay.

BRAININE is sold in boxes 1s. 1½d., and will be mailed post free to any address in the United Kingdom.

If you are a sufferer BRAININE is for you invaluable.

Some Convincing Testimony.

Mr. HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, M.P., after a practical test of BRAININE, says:

"You may certainly give me as a reference to the remarkable qualities of BRAININE. Most of my clerks now take it regularly, as well as myself—and I think we get through more work than any other office in London, AND ARE NEVER TIRED. Why don't you advertise it?"

December, 1911.

A LEADING HOSPITAL NURSE says:—"Under doctor's orders I am now using BRAININE when on duty, and the effect is really wonderful. Most of my 'convalescents' take it—and are loud in its praise."

December, 1911.

MR. C. writes:—"My wife has already derived great benefit from the BRAININE pellets. Kindly forward me another box, by return, for which I enclose 1s. 1½d."

December, 1911.

Mr. R. writes:—"Please forward me a box of BRAININE pellets. I find that they are all that you claim for them, and am, therefore, strongly recommending them to my friends."

December, 1911.

The writer, having derived great benefit from BRAININE, would be obliged if more could be forwarded by return. Enclosed please find P.O. for 1s. 1½d." Yours gratefully, J. F.

January, 1912.

"Gentlemen,—I received your samples of BRAININE, and I think—well, one can fancy a good deal, but I seem to feel improved. Kindly send me another 1s. 1½d. packet. I am going to give them a further trial. Also kindly state if I can get the same at Boots', Ltd., or where in this district." Yours faithfully, MRS. M.

January, 1912.

"Dear Sirs,—First box splendid; please send me two as per JOHN BULL coupon." R. G.

January, 1912.

"Gentlemen,—Kindly forward me another box of your BRAININE, for which I enclose 1s. 1½d. in stamps. I have been taking your BRAININE for a short time only, and must say it has a wonderful effect." Yours faithfully, S. J.

Your Chemist or Stores can obtain BRAININE for you from their wholesale houses. If, however, there is any difficulty or delay in getting it please cut out this order form and post direct to us, with remittance.

To THE BRAININE COMPANY, 2, Marsham Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Please forward me a supply of BRAININE, for which I enclose P.O. 1s. 1½d.

Name .....

Address (in full) .....

.....

State whether Mr., Mrs., or Miss .....

Our £1 000 Football Prize.

Close Results in Competition No. 2—The £1,000 nearly won—£157 10s. 0d. given in Consolation Prizes.

It was a near thing in our No. 2 Competition for the £1,000 Prize. Six competitors gave the following results:—Aston Villa *v.* Walsall, 6—0; Swindon *v.* Sutton Junction, 5—0; Blackburn *v.* Norwich City, 4—1: equalling 16 goals in all. Strangely enough, all of these, however, omitted Notts County *v.* Luton, in which match there were 6 goals scored—*i.e.*, Notts County 4, Luton 2. Both Aston Villa *v.* Walsall and Notts County *v.* Luton should have been on the winning coupons. Then there were two matches in each of which 5 goals were scored—*viz.*: Swindon *v.* Sutton Junction and Blackburn *v.* Norwich City, so that an absolutely correct coupon should have read:—

ASTON VILLA v. WALSALL, 6—0
NOTTS COUNTY v. LUTON, 4—2
and
SWINDON v. SUTTON JUNCTION, 5—0
or
BLACKBURN v. NORWICH CITY, 4—1

We are sorry to say that no competitor gave this result; but, on the other hand, two coupons gave:—

ASTON VILLA v. WALSALL, 6—0
NOTTS COUNTY v. LUTON, 4—2
SWINDON v. SUTTON JUNCTION, 5—0
and
ASTON VILLA v. WALSALL, 6—0
NOTTS COUNTY v. LUTON, 4—2
BLACKBURN v. NORWICH CITY, 4—1

Of course, strictly speaking, neither of these is quite correct, but as the conditions do not provide in express terms for the contingency of two or more matches resulting in the same number of goals, we have decided to adopt a generous view, and to award

Two Special Consolation Prizes of 50 Guineas each

to these two competitors, and, in addition, to divide

The Ordinary Consolation Prize of 50 Guineas

amongst the six who gave the three matches in which, exclusive of Notts County *v.* Luton, the largest number of goals were scored.

Accordingly, we have much pleasure in making the following awards:—

£52 10s. 0d. each to

M. LUCAS, 36, Oswald Street, Blackburn.

C. ENERY, "Skegness," High Road, Tottenham.

and £8 15s. 0d. each to

W. BEATTIE, 95, Vernon Street, Belfast, Ireland.
S. F. DORRETT, 41, Sutherland Road, Roman Road, Bow.
C. W. CHAPLIN, 22, Nunnry Lane, York.
G. A. EVERETT, 47, Dante Road, Newington Butts.
J. W. BEWERS, 44, Edmond Street, Kettering, Northants.
G. FOWLER, 64, Addy Street, Upper Thorpe, Sheffield.

W. Timms, 7, Rye Hill Cottages, Nottingham, and W. H. Inett, 41, Lesswell Street, Kidderminster, also forwarded claims, but we have failed to find corresponding coupons.

To avoid any such question again arising, we have framed a Condition (No. 10) to which we direct special attention. When two or more matches in the same League result in an equal number of goals, then the match including the team highest in the League table will count.

This week's competition is especially simple, having regard to the small number of matches to be played, and we shall be disappointed if the £1,000 is not won outright.

RHEUMATISM
CURED WITHOUT DRUGS!

You can't cure Rheumatism with drugs. There's no use trying. Drugs, or rather poison, will stop the pain for a while by stupefying the nerves, but that does not remove the cause, so the pain comes back.

You know that Rheumatism is caused by Uric Acid in the blood. There's only one thing that can get at this Uric Acid and drive it out of your system. That's electricity. It soaks into every vein and tissue of your body and drives the poisonous acid through the circulation, back to the kidneys, which filter the blood of all impurities.

Our 'Ajax' Body Battery has cured the worst cases of Rheumatism, after drugs and other methods had failed. When electricity goes in the body, Rheumatism must go out.

There's a lot to know about applying electricity so that it will cure. We have spent a good many years learning how to use it successfully, and we will give you the benefit of our knowledge.

The 'Ajax' Battery is a scientific device for infusing the body with a steady, unbroken current of electric life, without the least shock. Its power comes from dry batteries, so there is no charging to do. All that is necessary is to adjust it properly and turn on the power to the proper degree of strength. The battery is so constructed that the current can be applied to any part of the body.

No pain can exist in a body charged with electric life. You can have no Rheumatism, no weakness, no inactive parts, because the life generated by this grand force gives health and strength to every organ.

FREE TO YOU. Our beautifully illustrated 20 page book shows how electricity is applied, and explains many things you should know regarding the cause and cure of disease. Send at once, TO-DAY, for the free book, if you cannot call.

The BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE,
(Dept. 41), 25, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.

"A man is as old as he feels"

If he has a good appetite and a good digestion he is as young as the youngest of us. The habit of taking Mustard regularly at meals, begun in youth, has kept many an old man young—the best Mustard, of course,

Colman's mustard

D. S. F.

In "Cinderella," at the Brixton Theatre, Mr. Newman Maurice—who, by the way, is again responsible for this year's production at the Lyceum—has provided one of the prettiest of suburban pantomimes. Miss Jane Evre and Miss Victoria Campbell, as the Prince and Cinderella, sing and dance delightfully, and are in appearance all a principal "boy" and girl should be, while mirth-making, in the hands of Mr. Maurice, assisted by the four well-known Burnells and Mr. Tom Fancourt, provokes peals of laughter during the whole evening.

THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF QUALITY.

Buchanan's "Black & White"

BRAND.

"HO-LESS" HOSE AVOIDS TOE-LESS HOSE

—for the Socks known as "Ho-less Hose" do not hole! They are scientifically woven, so that it is practically impossible for them to wear through, and should they do so, we are perfectly willing to replace su h socks.

To this end we grant a six months' guarantee on every box of socks purchased.

* * * * * * *

We are now manufacturing non-holing socks in warm winter weight, made on a hand-frame from Long-staple Pure Botany Wool. The socks are without a doubt a splendid innovation in the realm of socks. They can be had in six good colours, and are sold in boxes containing six pairs, price **12/-**

"Ho-less" Half Hose in Black or Tan Cotton. Box of half-dozen **3/-**

Carriage Paid throughout British Isles.

Letter Orders carefully filled.

SELFRIDGE & CO., LTD.,
OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

IS YOUR HEART BAD?

Feel your pulse. Is it regular? Do you ever have Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Skipping a Beat, Cold Hands or Feet, Dropsy, Pains under the Left Shoulder Blade, Trouble in Lying on Left Side, Dizzy Spells, Drowsiness after Eating, Violent Starts in Your Sleep, Fulness in the Throat, Neuralgia Around the Heart?

If you have any of these symptoms, is it not time to correct them?

Oxien has proved an almost infallible cure of Heart Complaints. Let us send you a FREE PACKET, that you may, WITHOUT COST, try its effects upon your trouble.

We will send you a week's trial treatment, relying on your telling your friends if it does you good. Full particulars of use and of some of the cures with every packet. It costs you nothing to try.—THE GIANT OXIEN CO., (Dept. 222 F.F.), 8, Bouverie Street, London, E.C.

FREE BOX—OXIEN.

THE
GREAT REMEDY FOR
COUGHS & COLDS

Ornbridge's

LUNG TONIC

Speakers, Singers and those who suffer from **Throat Weakness** find it
SAFE AND EFFECTIVE.
Sold everywhere at 1/1½, 2/9, 4/3 & 11/-

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Don't Wear a Truss!

After Thirty Years' Experience Have Produced an Appliance for Men, Women or Children that Cures Rupture.

I SEND IT ON TRIAL.

If you have tried most everything else, come to me. Where others fail is where I have my greatest success. Send attached coupon to-day and I will send you free my illustrated book on Rupture and its cure, showing my Appliance and giving you prices and names of many people who have tried it and are extremely grateful. It is instant relief where all others fail. Remember, I use no salves, no harness, no lies.

I make it to your measure and send it to you on a strict guarantee of satisfaction or money refunded, and I have put my price so low that anybody, rich or poor, can buy it. I send on trial to prove what I say is true. You are the judge, and once having seen my illustrated book and read it you will be as enthusiastic as my thousands of patients whose letters are on file in my office. Fill out free coupon below and post to-day.

The above is C. E. Brooks who has been Curing Rupture for over 30 years. If Ruptured Write him to-day.

FREE INFORMATION COUPON.

C. E. Brooks, 455, Bank Buildings (Corner of Portugal St.), Kingsway, London, W.C.

Please send me by post in plain wrapper your Illustrated Book and full information about your Appliance for the cure of rupture.

NAME .....
ADDRESS .....
.....

Please write plainly.

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READERS of "John Bull" who deal in Stocks and Shares, quoted or unquoted, should transact their business through Farrow's Bank well-known and popular Stocks and Shares Department. The Bank deals only with the leading Members of the Stock Exchange.

Full particulars and Prospectus post free on application to the MANAGER, Stocks and Shares Department

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GRAVES

IMPERIAL SILVER ENGLISH LEVER

is British-made, has jewelled escapement, Automatic Chronometer Balance, Breguet Hairspring, and all recent perfections. The Cases are well proportioned, closely fitting, and are heavily wrought from Solid English Hall-marked Silver. Warranted Five Years.

2/6 WITH ORDER

WE DELIVER this magnificent English Lever to all approved orders for **2/6** with order, **2/6** on delivery if satisfied, and balance in 10 monthly payments of **4/-** Money refunded if the Watch is not considered entirely satisfactory. **2/-** in the **£** Discount for Cash.

CATALOGUE FREE. Send a Post Card for our handsomely Illustrated Art Catalogue of Ladies' and Gent's Gold and Silver Watches, Lovely Jewellery, and an enormous variety of beautiful and useful goods for presents at economical prices. Ask for Catalogue B

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

RACING NOTES.

By W. LOTINGA.

["*Larry Lynx*" *of* THE PEOPLE, "*Double U. L.*" *of* LOTINGA'S WEEKLY, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* THE GLOBE.]

Prophetic.

Kempton's fair card should give FOP a long delayed victory in the Hurdle Handicap, and if he absents BRIERY might win it. The Littleton Handicap ought to go to

FLAXEN,

whilst a sort of hopeless tip must be given for BLACK SEA in the Ditton Selling Handicap. On Saturday BUTTER BALL may take the Steeplechase, and FAROUCHE, who is also engaged in the Maiden Steeplechase on Friday, the Cranford Handicap. Up North UNCLE SAM IV. and CANNOCK LAD look the pick of the Steeplechase Handicaps each day at Blackpool, whilst at Nottingham next Monday LACE is nicely in the Handicap, and I like GREEK PLAY in the Mansfield Handicap. In Tuesday's Steeplechase Handicap

EXELITE,

who has been so long winning, has a big chance.

The Jockeys' Footer Match.

There will be more fun at Craven Cottage on February 5th, when the flat-race jockeys meet the cross-country horsemen at footer. Everything is progressing in a manner which must, given fine weather, make the game a great success. As before, Herbert Jones is captaining the flat-race men, and the team will be practically the same as the last one. Of the other side it can truly be said that *all* the steeplechase jockeys are anxious to be included in the eleven which Captain Noel Newton will lead.

FOOTBALL SELECTIONS.

By "McW."

The man who goes blindly at betting on football will be just as unfortunate as the hot-headed punter who backs horses at random. He who goes judiciously for the short odds can make that programme pay, as I have discovered from many sources. With a view to helping the "little men" as much as possible, I shall give each week my list of probable winners, possible winners, and doubtfuls. Of course, the probables are my chief fancies. In the games to be decided on Saturday, January 27th, the following is my little list:—

PROBABLES.

Blackburn Rovers.	Bristol City.
Bolton Wanderers.	Notts Forest.
Bradford City.	Coventry.
West Bromwich Albion.	Exeter.
Birmingham.	Plymouth.
Chelsea.	Swindon (away).

POSSIBLES.

Everton.	Reading.
Sheffield Wednesday.	Middlesbrough (away).
Clapton Orient.	Grimsby.
Bradford (away).	Derby (away).
Hull City.	Millwall (away).
Leyton.	

DOUBTFULS.

The other League matches.

For the benefit of those taking part in our £1,000 Competition, I would state that my fancies for the high scoring games on Saturday, February 3rd, are *Leeds City* v. *West Bromwich Albion; Swindon* v. *Notts County; Luton* v. *Brentford.*

FOOTBALL.

Send for Coupons. Every match in the 1st Scottish, 1st and 2nd English and Southern Leagues to choose from.

PATRICK FARLEY,

Turf and Football Accountant.

LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND; and 19, HOWARD ST., GLASGOW.
NO LIMIT TO DOUBLES OR TREBLES. LETTERS and COMMISSIONS. Pay at Night. Write for Terms.

HARRY APPLETON the man who always pays.

"NO LIMIT" THROUGHOUT JUMPING SEASON. BASLE 2, SWITZERLAND.

£100 FREE PRIZE OFFERED WEEKLY.

Send for my **FOOTBALL** terms. Odds greatly extended.

Postcards 1d. Kindly mention this paper. Letters 2½d.

FOOTBALL!

WHITE, FISHER & CO. THE WORLD'S PREMIER Football Accountants.

BASLE, SWITZERLAND,

beg to announce that the

ENORMOUS ODDS OF 2,000 to 1

HAVE BEEN LAID AND PAID ON OCTOBER 7th.

£100 TO ONE SHILLING.

This fortunate client, Mr. Albert Hobden, 8, Guildford Street, Brighton, having predicted 4 scores successfully. £1,000 will be paid to any charity if not genuine. Full particulars will be sent upon receipt of a postcard. Mention this paper and we will send you a sample packet, FREE OF COST, of our famous FOOTBALL WHIFF CIGARETTES. Letters should not bear postmark later than 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Every Match to choose from in the 4 Leagues. Nothing barred for the Cup except Aston Villa and Swindon.

Football Chat, November 22, says:—"Established firms of repute such as Messrs. White, Fisher & Co. conduct their business with a scrupulous fairness and impartiality that could well provide an object lesson to many commercial houses."

The Editor of the Racing Judge, October 7th, says:—"A friend tells us that one of the sights of Basle, Switzerland, is the arrival of White, Fisher & Co.'s mail every Sunday."

FOOTBALL.

SEND FOR COUPONS.

J. McLAUCHLAN,

Turf and Football Accountant,

Lucerne, Switzerland. Established 19 years.

Full Market Prices. CREDIT ACCOUNTS

Business all the year round.

Write 16, PRINCES STREET, EDINBURGH.

'FOOTBALL.'

Do your Business with

W. & A. FOX,

Football Accountants,

BASLE, SWITZERLAND.

LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.—This firm has established itself as reliable, and their terms are both liberal and fair to both parties.

FREE! FREE!!

Silver-Plated Cigarette Lighters

GIVEN AWAY EVERY WEEK

Absolutely Free.

1d. Postcard will bring you Full Particulars.

Free Postage. Free Postage.

FOOTBALL!

Were you welshed on Dec. 9th or Dec. 30th? If so make certain of not being welshed again and entrust your business to

H. HAMILTON & CO.,

The Oldest Established Football Accountants in the World

What the Press says of us:—

Lotinga's Weekly for Dec. 30th, 1911, says:—"It is absolutely the punter's own fault if he is now welshed at Football betting when there are such firms as H. HAMILTON & CO. transacting business on Football."

The Licensed Victuallers Gazette for Dec. 22nd, 1911, says:—"We hear on good authority that Messrs. H. HAMILTON & CO. paid out on December 9th what most people would consider a fortune. There are a lot of football speculators who will be sorry that they did not entrust their commissions to this well-known firm."

The Irish Sporting Illustrated for Dec. 23rd, 1911, says:—"Football speculators cannot do better than entrust their commissions to Messrs. H. HAMILTON & CO., and so make certain of receiving when they win."

Send a postcard (postage 1d.) for the most liberal price list issued. Our Football Annual sent free on mentioning this paper.

£25 *FREE OFFER open to all Clients.*

H. HAMILTON & Co., Basle, Switzerland.

FOOTBALL

THE SPORTSMAN, July 14th, 1911, says:—"BERT FRY, one of the best-known of the Flushing Turf Accountants, has removed his offices to Basle, Switzerland."

BERT FRY, BASLE 2, SWITZERLAND.

"JOHN BULL" says: "Every week we are inundated with complaints from people who have been defrauded by bogus football accountants. To a very great extent it serves them right, as, instead of accepting fictitious odds offered them by strangers, they could entrust their business to a reliable firm, like that of Bert Fry, and be sure of receiving their winnings."

Special Half-Time Sheet. £50 Free Prize Weekly.

Free Postage.

OUR £1,000 NEARLY WON!

NO ENTRANCE FEE.

£1,000 for FOUR Results. £1,000.

N.B.—Owing to the Second Round of the Cup Ties taking place and consequently fewer matches being played we are THIS WEEK compelled to ask for 4 Results.

No Entrance Fee Whatever. **£52 10s. at least MUST BE WON EACH WEEK.**

announced above, our **£1,000** has been nearly

very simple task is set you. There is no cross- ur of names, no trying to fulfil impossible ditions. Shrewd judgment, sound common-sense, a little calculation will win you our mmoth Money Prize.

ll you have to do is to select four games from Est given on Coupon No. 5 in which the test number of goals will be scored, stating the t number of goals which will be scored by *each competing teams.*

us you are called upon to give the results, that the actual number of goals scored **in only four** tches.

f your estimate is the only one correct you pocket £1,000. If your estimate proves to be the one most nearly accurate

You Must Win £52 10 0.

Let us explain matters by an example. Supposing any single coupon bore the following selections:—

BRADFORD 5 v. PORTSMOUTH 3 .. Total 8.
LEEDS CITY 2 v. W. BROMWICH A. 4 Total 6.
SWINDON 4 v. NOTTS COUNTY 3 Total 7.
QUEENS PARK R. 5 v. EXETER 0 .. .. Total 5.

and these proved to be the four highest totals of goals scored by the contesting clubs given in our coupon, the sender of such coupon would receive the £1,000. Were your forecast, although not absolutely correct, the nearest to the correct figures, you would win the Prize of Fifty Guineas. And what do you risk? Absolutely nothing!

If you are looking for guidance let us recommend to you the views of the great Football Writer and Expert, "McW.," who contributes "Football Favourites" in another column. Each week, too, you will find "Football Fancies" in "Lotinga's Weekly."

Do not run away with the idea that we do not wish you to win the Mammoth Prize:

The sooner the £1,000 is won the better pleased we shall be.

We realise the advertising value of such a happening.

Remember, in conclusion, that you must select clubs actually competing against each other on Saturday, February 3rd.

No. 5. COUPON for Matches to be Played SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd.

The eight opposing clubs which, in the following matches, will total the largest number of goals between them and the goals which each will score, will be as follows:—

CUP TIE GAMES.	Goals		Goals
adford		v. Portsmouth	
anch'ter C.		v. Oldham	
rby C.		v. Blackb'n R.	
eds City		v. W. Bromwh	
atford or Wolvm W.		v. Lincoln C.	
arlington		v. Northmtn	
oventry		v. Manstr U.	

CUP TIE GAMES.	Goals		Goals
Crystal P.		v. Sunderland	
Middlsbro' or Shef W.		v. W. Ham	
Birmingham or Barnsley		v. Croydon C. or Leistr F.	
Swindon		v. Notts C.	
Bradford C.		v. Chelsea	
Bolton W.		v. Crewe A. or Blackpool	
Fulham		v. Liverpool	

LEAGUE GAMES.	Goals		Goals
Grimsby		v. Notts F.	
Stockport		v. Huddersf'd	
Millwall		v. N. Bromptn	
Queen's P. R.		v. Exeter	
Stoke		v. Norwich	
Luton		v. Brentford	

I agree to abide by the decision published in JOHN BULL and "Lotinga's Weekly," and I enter this Competition on that clear understanding.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

Owing to our going to press early we have not the results of certain Ties undecided in First Round, and so in four instances we have included the alternative Teams.

Should no one succeed in estimating all the particulars correctly, then £52 10s. will be awarded each and every week to the competitor whose estimate is most nearly correct. In the event of a tie the £52 10s. will be divided.

CONDITIONS TO BE OBSERVED.

1. The decision published in JOHN BULL and "Lotinga's Weekly" must be accepted as final and legally binding, and you enter only on that clear understanding.
2. Your estimate must be written only on a JOHN BULL Coupon, or on the Coupon to be found in "Lotinga's Weekly."
3. £1,000 will be awarded to the competitor (or competitors) sending an absolutely correct estimate. If no competitor is absolutely correct in his coupon, £52 10s. will be given to the competitor whose estimate is most nearly correct. In the event of a tie the £52 10s. will be divided.
4. JOHN BULL and "Lotinga's Weekly" will not accept any responsibility whatever in the matter of the non-delivery or delay of any attempt submitted.
5. All correspondence, whether personal or by letter, in the matter of the conduct of this competition will be ignored.
6. Readers in Scotland are precluded from taking part in our Football Competition owing to the attitude of their Law officers.
7. All competitors claiming prizes must send in their claims by the Thursday following the matches played.
8. All competitors must put the name and number of the competition on the top left-hand corner of the front of the envelope containing coupons or claims, and their names and addresses must be distinctly written on the back of the envelope.
9. Competitors sending in claims must forward copy of coupons to which their claims refer.
10. When two or more matches in the same League result in an equal number of goals, then the match including the team highest in the League table will count.

Mark your envelopes "Football No. 5" and post your attempts so that they reach JOHN BULL, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C., not later than mid-day on Thursday, February 1st next.

See page 130 for Result of Competition No. 2.

£1,000 THE GREAT "FOOTBALL FINAL" COMPETITION £1,000

On February 3rd next thirty-two clubs engage in the Second Round of the competition proper for the Football Cup.

Of all these thirty-two only four can appear in the Semi-Finals, and only two in the Final Tie at the Crystal Palace. Only one can win the Cup.

Students of football form are asked to test their skill by filling in the particulars given on our "Skill" Coupon.

£1,000 will be given to the competitor (or competitors) whose coupon is correct in every particular.

If no competitor forecasts the exact results, £52 10 0 will be given to the sender of the most correct attempt. In the event of a tie, the money will be divided between the successful competitors.

The conditions governing our other Football Competition hold good in this case.

Mark your envelopes "Final," and send them so that they will be received at JOHN BULL Offices, 93 & 94, Long Acre, London, W.C., not later than mid-day, Friday, February 2nd next.

It is only by knowledge of football form that you can succeed in giving all the particulars required. Therefore we advise you to give your attention to "Football Fancies" which appear each week in this Journal, Your coupon MUST be taken from either JOHN BULL or "Lotinga's Weekly."

Further offers of large Money Prizes will be made after the decision of the Second Round.

2 COUPON. THE FOOTBALL CUP COMPETITION.

The following four Clubs in my judgment will contest the Semi-Finals. The number of goals each will score in the actual deciding games are as given below:

Clubs	Goals		Clubs	Goals
.....		v.	.....	
.....		v.	.....	

The following two Clubs will contest the Final Tie this season and I judge the number of goals each will score in the actual deciding game to be

Club	Goals		Club	Goals
.....		v.	.....	

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

No Entrance Fee.

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